

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3197.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1889.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

GOVERNMENT GRANT of 4,000*l.* for the PRO-
MOION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.—Applications for the year
1889 to be considered at the Annual Meeting of the Government Grant
Committee must be forwarded to the Secretaries, Royal Society,
Burlington House, London, W., marked "Government Grant," before
March 1st, and must be written upon Printed Forms, which may be
obtained of the Assistant Secretary.

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RUARY and MARCH, and on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURS-
DAYS and SATURDAYS in APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, and AUGUST.
Cards for Private Days and for Students to be obtained of the Curator,
at the Museum.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—
The FIFTH MEETING of the SESSION will be held at 33,
Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W., on WEDNESDAY NEXT, February
6th. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m.
Antiquities will be exhibited, including Ancient Seals and Drawings of
Cornish Crosses.
The following Paper will be read:—
"The Original Records of the Steeple to St. Antholin's
Church, London, by Sir Christopher Wren," by Major H. A. JOSEPH.
W. DE GRAY BIRCH, F.S.A., Honorary
E. F. LOFTUS BROCK, F.S.A., J. Secretaries.

THE SHORTHAND SOCIETY.—Monthly
Meeting, WEDNESDAY, February 6, at 8 p.m., at 55, Chancery-
lane (First Floor). Paper by Miss M. P. ELLIS, "Modern Transcribing
Machines." EDWARD POCKNELL, Hon. Sec.
64, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate-circus, E.C.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER
COLOURS.—ELECTION of ASSOCIATES.—The day appointed
for receiving votes by Candidates is MONDAY, February 25th, and the
day of Election THURSDAY, 25th. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

ROYAL SOCIETY of PAINTER-ETCHERS.
The EXHIBITION for 1889 will be held in the Gallery of the Royal
Society of Painters in Water Colours, 51, Pall Mall East, and will be
opened on THURSDAY, 7th March. The Receiving Day is SATURDAY,
2nd March. The Election of Associates previous to this Exhibition will
take place on WEDNESDAY, 29th February. Candidates for the Degree
of Associate must make their application not later than 15th February,
by letter addressed to the HONORARY SECRETARY, 46, Parliament-street,
Westminster, with one or more Specimens of their original work for
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- LAURENCE OLIPHANT. By M. O. W. Oliphant.
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT in SCOTLAND.
- SIR PATRICK MAXWELL and the DEVIL. Note to Article 'Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe,' in 'Maga,' December 1888.

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LITERATURE

Histoire du Peuple d'Israël. Par Ernest Renan. Tome II. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

IN this his second volume M. Renan traverses the period between the definite establishment and consolidation of the kingdom of David and the commencement of the activity of Isaiah. Before calling attention to particular passages, such as may serve to exhibit what is peculiar in M. Renan's general treatment, we may reproduce in barest outline the political events of the period as they are depicted by M. Renan.

The closing years of the reign of David were troubled by the question of the succession to the throne—a question which to Eastern potentates, with whom polygamy is the rule, has seldom failed to present itself in a specially acute and complicated form. The king looked upon Solomon as his successor; but in the hearts of the people Adonijah, the eldest now that Absalom was dead, was a powerful rival. The latter had actually contrived a sort of informal proclamation of himself, when Bathsheba, whose influence preponderated in the harem, joining at this critical moment her solicitations to those of Nathan the prophet, roused the failing David to proclaim Solomon his successor in orthodox form. Immediately upon his assumption of supreme power Solomon took the necessary precaution of ridding himself of rivals possible as well as actual. The last dying instructions of his father were of great service to him as a guide in the selection of his victims, though he displayed on his own account a quite peculiar combination of political sagacity and sacred sophistry, which well deserves to have become proverbially associated with his name as "wisdom." Having thus strengthened the basis of his authority, Solomon devoted himself to the task of organizing his kingdom. His taste for pomp and luxury was gratified without stint; and under his influence Israel commenced that movement in the path of secular progress which the conservatism of the puritan party soon succeeded in arresting. For the peculiar historical significance of the reign of Solomon lies in the fact that Israel was then, for the first and last time, drawn by deliberate policy into the wider and deeper current of national life around her. Solomon was the friendly ally of the king of Tanis, whose daughter held a place of special privilege in his crowded harem.

With Tyre his relations were close and constant; the Temple itself was a monument of Tyrian art in its most sumptuous form; while from the same intercourse came the impulse to equip the famous fleet, the memory of whose distant voyages and costly cargoes lived long in popular tradition. But the reverse of this royal medallion bears a far less imposing and symmetrical device, and the surface is already marred, as it were, by lines of future cleavage. The men of God, who still cherished fond memories of a golden age of pastoral life, looked askance at the pomp and circumstance of profane civilization. Neither did the Temple please them better, strange as it may appear to many of us, who are accustomed to look back upon it only through the orthodox medium of the later ecclesiastical writings. The pietist of the age of Solomon preferred to worship on the high places, in the open air, as the patriarchs had done before him. Moreover, the burdens and exactions necessarily involved in the maintenance of government and the support of public works were deeply resented by a proud people, who were, on the one hand, firmly persuaded of the dignity of idleness, and, on the other, saw in such an obvious institution as taxes nothing but the king's irresponsible method of gratifying his tastes and paying for his caprices. Accordingly, upon the death of Solomon the discontent which had long been smouldering burst out fiercely into open revolt. The conduct and bearing of the legitimate successor only served to fan the flame. Of the twelve tribes Judah and Benjamin alone remained faithful to the house of David, while the rest proclaimed Jeroboam king, and the ancient line of division between Israel and Judah broadened and deepened into an impassable gulf. The political decadence of the two divisions, separated by mutual jealousy and antipathy, was henceforth swift and sure. Five years after the death of Solomon, Sheshonq, founder of the twenty-second dynasty, passed through Palestine on a marauding expedition, taking Jerusalem on his way; and neither of the little kingdoms could make the least show of resistance. In the North, Samaria, under the house of Omri, reflected for a brief period the splendour of the Solomonic epoch at Jerusalem; but, as usual, the first signs of progress in the direction of profane civilization provoked indignant protest on the part of the prophets, whose influence is still visible in the sombre and lurid colouring of the story of Ahab. The danger which constantly threatened from the side of Damascus brought Ahab into temporary alliance with Jehosaphat, king of Judah. Though the issue of their joint enterprise was disastrous, Jehu and his successors were able to defend themselves against the same enemy, until, on the apparition of Assyria, local strife becomes merged in the common struggle for national existence. The curtain falls upon a tragic scene—upon the Northern kingdom ravaged and ruined, and the flower of her people carried away into slavery, while Judah, not more than half animated, half consoled by the voice of Isaiah, trembles before the threatening of a similar fate.

Of the religious activity which fills this whole period of apparent decay and disaster, of the composition of that literature which

has dominated for centuries the thoughts of men, we must allow M. Renan himself to speak in his own brilliant, if occasionally flippant way.

Of the reign of David the religious significance was, according to M. Renan, immense, though the current idea of the tribal god was still in a large measure crude and material:—

"La profession de foi de David se résume en ce mot: 'Iahvé qui a sauvé ma vie de tout danger...' Iahvé est une forteresse sûre, un rocher, d'où l'on peut défer ses ennemis, un bouclier, un sauveur. Le serviteur de Iahvé est en toute chose un être privilégié. Oh! combien il est sage d'être un serviteur exact de Iahvé. C'est surtout en ce sens que le règne de David eut une extrême importance religieuse."

The story of Solomon, in the familiar form in which it has reached us, is, M. Renan thinks, the outcome of an attempt to combine and exhibit in one picture two discordant impressions of the same scene. Much has been done in the way of toning and blending ill-matched tints; but the general effect, though undeniably gorgeous and varied, is a proof that the difficulty was not overcome:—

"Le charmant épisode—probablement légendaire—de la reine de Saba servit de cadre à cette première édition des 'Mille et une Nuits.' L'homme, devenu vieux, aime à se reporter vers un état d'imagination où nulle philosophie n'est encore venue troubler ses goûts d'adolescent. Un roi, en même temps sage et voluptueux, un mondain favorisé des révélations célestes, une reine qui vient des extrémités du monde pour voir sa sagesse et lui dire tout ce qu'elle a sur le cœur, un sérail hyperbolique à côté du premier temple élevé à l'Éternel, tel a été, avec le Cantique des cantiques, le divertissement et la part du sourire, dans ce grand opéra sombre qu'a créé le génie hébreu. Il y a des heures, dans la vie la plus religieuse, où l'on fait une halte au bord de la route, et où l'on oublie les devoirs austères, pour s'amuser un moment, comme les femmes du sérail de Salomon, avec les perles et les perroquets d'Ophir."

On the other hand:—

"La réalité historique qui se cache derrière ces récits merveilleux fut à peu près ceci: Un millier d'années avant Jésus-Christ, régna, dans une petite acropole de Syrie, un petit souverain, intelligent, dégagé de préjugés nationaux, n'entendant rien à la vraie vocation de sa race, sage selon l'opinion du temps, sans qu'on puisse dire qu'il fût supérieur en moralité à la moyenne des monarques orientaux de tous les temps. L'intelligence, qui évidemment le caractérisa, lui valut de bonne heure un renom de science et de philosophie. Chaque âge comprit cette science et cette philosophie selon la mode qui dominait. Salomon fut ainsi tour à tour paraboliste, naturaliste, sceptique, magicien, astrologue, alchimiste, cabbaliste."

With regard to the place filled by the Temple in the religious history of Israel, M. Renan remarks:—

"Le temple fut une idée personnelle de Salomon, une idée toute politique, dont la conséquence devait être de mettre l'arche et son oracle dans la dépendance du palais royal. Au point de vue israélite pur, le temple devait sembler une déchéance. Cette localisation de la gloire de Iahvé était si peu dans le vrai développement d'Israël, que, le temple à peine achevé, nous verrons les parties les plus vivantes de la nation s'en séparer, et attester par leur schisme que cet édifice n'appartenait en rien à l'essence du iahvéisme.....Tous les abus du judaïsme viendront du temple et de son personnel. Pas un prophète, pas un grand homme ne sortira de la caste lévitique. Le dernier mot d'Israël sera une religion sans temple."

After the division into two kingdoms, the spirit of the Northern Tribes vexed and confined under Solomon, found room to expand and develop in a freer air. It is to this activity that we must assign the reduction to literary form of the patriarchal and heroic legends, of which fragments—in some cases, probably, retouched—are still preserved in the composite body of the present Hexateuch:—

“Une race vit éternellement de ses souvenirs d'enfance, ou de ceux qu'une adoption séculaire lui a en quelque sorte inoculés. Le livre des patriarches eut sur l'imagination d'Israël une influence incalculable. Cet écrivain primitif donna le ton à ceux qui suivirent, un ton qui n'est ni celui de l'histoire, ni celui du roman, ni celui du mythe, ni celui de l'anecdote, et auquel on ne peut trouver d'analogie que dans certains récits arabes antéislamiques. Le tour de la narration hébraïque, juste, fin, piquant, naïf, rappelant l'improvisation haletante d'un enfant qui veut dire à la fois tout ce qu'il a vu, était fixé pour toujours. On en retrouvera la magie jusque dans les agades de décadence. Les Évangiles rendront à ce genre le charme conquérant qu'il a toujours eu sur la bonhomie aryenne, peu habitués à tant d'audace dans l'affirmation de fables. On croira la Bible, on croira l'Évangile, à cause d'une apparence de candeur enfantine, et d'après cette fausse idée que la vérité sort de la bouche des enfants: ce qui sort, en réalité, de la bouche de l'enfant, c'est le mensonge. La plus grande erreur de la justice est de croire au témoignage des enfants. Il en est de même des témoins qui se font égorger. Ces témoins, si fort prisés par Pascal, sont justement ceux dont il faut se délier.”

Upon the way in which the heroic legends have permeated the more recent strata of the literature, M. Renan makes the following remarks:—

“C'est pour ne s'être pas bien rendu compte de l'importance de cette première étape littéraire d'Israël, que des critiques, plus habiles aux découvertes du microscope qu'aux larges vues d'horizon, n'ont pas eu d'yeux pour voir, en sa grosseur capitale, ce fait: que les plus anciens rédacteurs de l'Hexateuch citent un écrit antérieur, savoir le livre du *Isaïe* ou des *Guerres de Iahvé*, composé d'après d'anciens cantiques. Nous trouvons les membres épars de ce livre dans les parties dites jéhovistes du livre des *Nombres*; nous le retrouvons dans *Josué*; selon nous, il fait le fond du livre des *Juges*, et il a fourni les plus beaux éléments des livres dits de *Samuël*. Le livre des *Juges*, en effet, et les livres dits de *Samuël* nous offrent à la surface la couche de terrain que, dans les plus anciennes parties de l'Hexateuch, nous ne rencontrons qu'en filon et en sous-sol.”

Passing to the beginnings of a sacred history, properly so called, M. Renan finds that the earlier and more original redaction was the work of the Nord:—

“La rédaction du Nord fut sûrement la première en date et la plus originale.....Ce que le rédacteur jéhoviste eut surtout de personnel, ce qui le distingua essentiellement de ses devanciers,ce fut une profonde philosophie, recouverte du voile mythique, une conception triste et sombre de la nature, une sorte de haine pessimiste de l'humanité.....Ce qu'on appelle le fatalisme musulman n'est, en réalité, que le fatalisme iahvéiste. Jaloux de sa gloire, susceptible sur le point d'honneur, Iahvé a en haine les efforts humains. On lui fait injure en cherchant à connaître le monde et à l'améliorer.Le jéhoviste, comme on l'appelle, est sûrement un des écrivains les plus extraordinaires qui aient existé.....Il égale presque Hegel par l'usage et l'abus des formules générales.....Une pensée profonde, bien que selon nous erronée, remplit ses pages en apparence les plus enfantines.....On peut dire, en effet, que le péché

originel a été une invention du jéhoviste. Le mal pour lui est ‘la voie de toute chair.’.....L'explication de toute l'histoire humaine par la tendance au mal, par la corruption intime de la nature, est bien du jéhoviste, et elle a été la base du christianisme de saint Paul. La tradition juive garda ces pages mystérieuses, sans beaucoup y faire attention. Saint Paul en tira une religion, qui a été celle de saint Augustin, de Calvin, en général du protestantisme, et qui certes a sa profondeur, puisque des esprits très éminents de notre siècle en sont encore pénétrés.”

On the other hand:—

“L'ouvrage qui résulta du travail hiérosolymite était plus court que celui du Nord. Le caractère en était plus simple, moins mythologique, moins bizarre.....C'est par sa première page que cet écrivain a marqué sa place en lettres d'or dans l'histoire de la religion, et en lettres beaucoup moins lumineuses dans l'histoire de la science et de l'esprit humain.....On peut dire que le narrateur hiérosolymite, par son début, a créé la physique sacrée qu'il faut à certain état d'esprit où l'on tient à n'être qu'à moitié absurde. Cette page.....a répondu à ce rationalisme médiocre, qui se croit en droit de rire des faibles parce qu'il admet une dose aussi réduite que possible de surnaturel; puis elle a sensiblement nui au progrès de la vraie raison, qui est la science.....Les cosmogonies hésiodiques sont plus loin de la vérité que la première page de l'élohiste; mais, certes, elles ont fait moins déraisonner. On n'a pas persécuté au nom d'Hésiode, on n'a pas accumulé les contresens pour trouver dans Hésiode le dernier mot de la géologie.”

Of the prophets whose labours extend over the latter part of the period before us, we have space to refer only to *Isaiah*:—

“Quoique *Isaïe* n'ait pas inventé les belles formules religieuses qui remplissent ses écrits, sa place dans l'histoire du monde n'est nullement usurpée. Il fut le plus grand d'une série de géants.....Il n'est pas le fondateur du judaïsme; il en est le génie classique.....Il est le vrai fondateur (je ne dis pas l'inventeur) de la doctrine messianique et apocalyptique. Jésus et les apôtres n'ont fait que répéter *Isaïe*. Une histoire des origines du christianisme qui voudrait remonter aux premiers germes devrait commencer à *Isaïe*.”

In conclusion, the present volume will be found to be in many respects more satisfactory than its predecessor. M. Renan stands on firmer ground. His task has been to deal not with the mists of conjecture hovering upon the margin of history, but with the solid and assured conclusions of critical science. Of the qualities of the book as a specimen of French prose it would be superfluous to speak in detail. We need only say that it is replete with signs that M. Renan is still in full possession of his unrivalled powers. We note the same delicacy of insight, the same breadth of sympathy, the same mastery of the varied resources of reflection and illustration.

The Career of Major George Broadfoot, C.B., in Afghanistan and the Punjab. By Major W. Broadfoot, R.E. (Murray.)

To rescue from oblivion the brilliant services of a gallant soldier, who fought hard, endured much, and died bravely on the field, is certainly a fitting task for an officer retired from the more active duties of his profession; and it is all the more felicitous when, as in the present instance, the hero of the achievements to be celebrated happens to be a kinsman of the writer, and when the investigation of the contemporary

records brings to light certain errors and omissions in the accepted history of the military operations in which he was engaged.

Major W. Broadfoot, therefore, has done well to revive our somewhat hazy recollections of the operations directed by Sir Robert Sale and General Pollock subsequent to the disasters which disgraced the annals of the first Afghan wars, although it might be thought that Sir John Kaye, and more recently Sir Henry Durand, had well-nigh summed up all that was to be said on this much vexed subject—indeed, thirty-seven years ago we stated in this journal that the topic was nearly worn out (*Athen.* No. 1254). The presence of accredited newspaper correspondents at the headquarters of armies in the field nowadays, first, we believe, commenced before Sebastopol, has in some degree destroyed the old trustful confidence in the euphemisms of a general's despatches published in the *Gazette*; but the secret and “strictly confidential” communications which so often reveal the real history of events usually only see the light when those to whom they refer have long passed away. Major George Broadfoot's journals and letters have been found to contain much of such unrecorded history, and, although the extracts now printed may prove *caviare* to the multitude, to the military student of the battle-ground of the Indian frontier they may afford instructive lessons.

The time dealt with in this narrative extends only over the last few years of Broadfoot's career, commencing in 1841, when he was thirty-four years of age, and ending with his death at the battle of Firozshah in 1845. Previous to this time Broadfoot's life had been comparatively uneventful since he joined the 34th Madras Native Infantry as a cadet; for he had performed ordinary regimental duty, acted as orderly officer at Addiscombe, and latterly engaged in departmental work with the commissariat. Both his younger brothers saw service before he did, and both died in action, one in rallying his men against Dost Mahomed's famous last charge at Parwan Dara, and the other in the subsequent massacre at Kabul.

George Broadfoot, although not an engineer officer, was ordered to raise a regiment of sappers for Shah Shuja's service at Kabul, then occupied by General Elphinstone; and his first duty was to convey to that capital, across the Punjab, the zenana, treasure, and impedimenta of the Shah. The difficulties of this march beyond the Sutlej to Peshawar were aggravated by the turbulent attitude of the Sikh troops encamped on the route, who acknowledged no control but that of their *panchayats*, or regimental committees. Owing to his coolness and tact the young officer accomplished his mission without firing a shot, and brought his party safely to its destination. Warmer work was soon to follow. In the autumn of 1841 Capt. Broadfoot and his sappers fought their way with the rear-guard of Sir Robert Sale's brigade during the march to Jalalabad. The passage of the Pari Dara was, in fact, all but a rout, and foreshadowed the awful fate that was to befall the army of Elphinstone:—

“The panic-stricken companies of the 13th and 35th hurried forward in confusion to get out of the pass. The Ghilzie, occupying the cover on either side, fired into the mass of

fugitives, and the villagers pressed up the pass after them, knife in hand. At this juncture and amid this confusion 'most fortunately a few intrepid British were found to face the enemy, headed by Capt. Broadfoot: these were Capt. Wyndham and Lieut. Coombs of the 35th, Lieut. Cunningham (son of the poet) and Sergeant-Major Kelly of the Sappers, with five or six sepoy of the Sapper corps, who had remained with Broadfoot and Cunningham as orderlies; these ten or twelve charged the Ooloos, or villagers above referred to, and held them in check until they reached the exit of the pass.....During this scene of terror all who fell wounded were, of course, abandoned; the enemy as they came up falling upon them in heaps, and, as Capt. Broadfoot describes it, 'like hounds on a fox.' Our men were rallied 'by the dispositions made at the outlet by Capt. Backhouse and Fenwick, and covered by the bold front ever maintained by Capt. Broadfoot.' Lieut. Cunningham, we may observe, is known to literature as Col. Cunningham, the accomplished editor of Marlowe and Ben Jonson.

Next comes the portion of history which should be rewritten. Speaking of the first week in January, 1842, Kaye writes:—

"The Jellalabad garrison were not in a temper to be easily cast down. On they went from day to day, working cheerfully at the defences—never fearing for themselves, and in spite of the evil prophecies of a few among them, hoping the best for their miserable comrades."

We now learn from the journals of Broadfoot and Backhouse not only that doubt and despair were rife in the garrison, but that General Sale and Capt. MacGregor, the political officer, had resolved to yield up Jalalabad; for after the arrival of Dr. Brydon, the sole survivor of the Kabul army with the exception of Akbar Khan's prisoners, on the 13th of January, and after Wilde's defeat in the Khaibar on the 19th, Sale summoned a council of war to approve a scheme for the evacuation of the town under a convention with the Afghans. Unfortunately, Broadfoot's diary of this very critical period has been lost:—

"From January 10th to February 1st the leaves have disappeared, and all endeavour to trace them has been fruitless. When Major Broadfoot was killed in 1845, the diary was in the hands of the late Sir H. Havelock, who sent it to Broadfoot's successor in office, Sir H. Lawrence, from whom it was received some years after by Major Broadfoot's family without the pages referred to."

Surely Major W. Broadfoot does not imply that Sir H. Lawrence could have had anything to do with the disappearance of these pages; for on p. 62 a letter is quoted, written by Major G. Broadfoot to Havelock (April, 1843): "You remember.....your telling me of your having been deprived somewhat suddenly of all the documents relating to our Jellalabad parliaments." This deprivation evidently included the missing pages. It must be kept in mind that the important memoir on the several councils of war which ensued (the "jackdaw parliaments," as Havelock termed them) is avowedly based on recollection, backed up, however, by Havelock's reminiscences in confirmation of the main points at issue. The notices of Henry Havelock's noble bearing and sterling worth are, by the way, not the least interesting reading in the book. These councils of war are not even alluded to by Sir John Kaye, although he mentions

earlier ones that took place at Gundamuk and Jalalabad. Throughout Kaye leads his readers to suppose that Sale was the leading spirit in the defence of Jalalabad, whereas we now learn how weak the "poor" general was—how Broadfoot and Havelock urged him to do this, persuaded him to do that.

Capt. Oldfield, of the Bengal Cavalry, and Broadfoot were the only two members of the council who withstood the scheme of surrendering, for Havelock had not a vote; but later Capt. Backhouse joined the opposition. Nevertheless, the letter offering to surrender was actually forwarded to the enemy, who returned it that the seals of the subscribers might be affixed. This delay happily enabled the minority to gain over Cols. Dennie and Monteath, who, with Abbott, were able to carry the day. It was fully determined by all, except Sir R. Sale and his political officer, to hold out, and Jalalabad was saved.

During Pollock's march on Kabul after the raising of the siege, Broadfoot and his sappers maintained their reputation for gallantry, and on the arrival of the armies at the frontier Major Broadfoot was appointed Commissioner of Tenasserim by Lord Ellenborough as a reward for his services. After a successful administration of that province for a short period, Major Broadfoot was posted as Governor-General's Agent of the North-West Frontier, where trouble with the Sikh Khalsa was now impending.

When Raja Lal Singh crossed the Sutlej, Broadfoot had fully arranged for the supplies of the British forces when the regular commissariat had collapsed, and he was the first to announce the approach of the enemy before the action at Mudki, where he accompanied the Governor-General, Sir Henry Hardinge, who, to his eternal honour, sinking his rank and position, fought as second in command to Sir Hugh Gough. At Ferozshah Broadfoot was shot in the thigh, but, remounting, cheered on his men in the attack on the entrenchments till he fell with a bullet through his heart.

We have only to add that there is a good index, with maps of Jalalabad and the Sutlej. The value of the work would have been increased by a map to illustrate the passes between Kabul and the besieged town; whilst some views of the walls before and after the earthquake, reduced, say, from Walton's large lithographs, would better enable the student to realize the work performed by Broadfoot and his native sappers during their heroic defence of Jalalabad.

Side-Lights on the Stuarts. By F. A. Inderwick, Q.C. (Sampson Low & Co.)

THIS is an amusing, but most unequal book. Some parts of it show considerable research, and a patient weighing of authorities which does the author great credit; other portions have been compiled in a haphazard manner, which can by no means be commended. Mr. Inderwick is not an admirer of the Stuart family, but he is more careful than some others of his contemporaries. He endeavours to do justice to James I., a person whom it is the custom of many who are fair to his son to calumniate recklessly. Nor does Mr. Inderwick quite do justice to Henrietta Maria. There is very little about

her, it is true; but what there is indicates that her history has not been approached with a full understanding of her unfortunate surroundings. Why Mr. Inderwick has reproduced the old engraving of the queen doing penance at Tyburn it is hard to imagine. He calls it an engraving of the seventeenth century. We do not know its date, but judging from the style it seems to us to be a Dutch production of about the year 1700. Mr. Inderwick does not tell us what event in the queen's life it relates to beyond the fact that Penant says that in 1626 her confessor ordered her to do penance at Tyburn, at which her husband was so disgusted that the priest was sent out of the kingdom. The tale looks so exceedingly like a calumny that it is impossible to accept it without proof. Penant was an acute observer and an industrious compiler, but had no very clear notions as to the boundary line between truth and fiction. Grotesque penances were sometimes imposed in those days, but we do not think anything so offensive and dangerous could have been inflicted on the queen consort without absolute proof having been preserved. The engraving, whatever be its date and origin, is no evidence whatever.

By far the best part of the book is the portion devoted to Monmouth's rebellion, for the terrible details of the legal vengeance taken on the defeated party are given in detail without any of that picturesque writing which, while it heightens the effect, deprives all but careful people of the power of comparing those unhappy proceedings with similar events in early and later history. We should be sorry to appear as apologists for the butcheries in the West, which can hardly be denounced in too strong language; but we apprehend that they in no way bear comparison with the deeds of blood which followed on the suppression of the rising in the North, or the similar atrocities which took place during the Puritan conquest of Ireland. The great value of the article consists in Mr. Inderwick having printed in full the Gaol Book of the Western Circuit for 1685 and 1686. Here are given the names, crimes, and sentences of all those concerned in the revolt. It is a terrible catalogue, occupying twenty-nine pages of compact print.

The portion devoted to Arabella Stuart contains, as far as we have observed, nothing new. It is picturesquely written, and is rendered valuable by containing an appendix of letters written by and to that unfortunate woman. Many of them have not, as far as we are aware, ever been printed before. It may not be out of place to mention as an example of the lax manner of spelling names in former days that Arabella signs indifferently Steward, Stewart, and Stuart.

The paper on witchcraft contains a mass of curious information. The extracts from the Gaol Books of the Western Circuit from 1670 to 1712 with regard to this supposed crime will be new to students. It is a long catalogue, but it is some consolation to find that only about one-tenth of the criminals were found guilty. Much has been written about witchcraft, every volume on folk-lore deals with it, and most persons when they wish to have a fling at their ancestors are in the habit of discoursing on this cruel and stupid form of superstition. There is,

however, no book in the language which deals with it in an exhaustive manner. As Mr. Inderwick points out,—

"There is every reason to believe that the actual consort of evil spirits with human beings was more implicitly accepted by the Calvinists during the seventeenth century than by professors of any other form of religion."

Though terrible details reach us from France and the Catholic parts of Germany, the fact no doubt is as Mr. Inderwick has stated. It would occupy far too much space were we to endeavour to explain the reasons for this—they are extremely complex; but it must be remembered that, although comparatively inconsiderable in the Middle Ages, there is a stream of witchcraft tradition coming down to us from very early times.

There are few mistakes in matters of fact in Mr. Inderwick's pages. One of them is, however, extremely grotesque. He accepts the story of James I. knighting the loin of beef, and lays the scene at Houghton Tower. One cannot but wish that Dr. Murray's 'Dictionary' had reached the letter *S*, that the surloin superstition might be sent to join witchcraft, the divine right of kings, and other such like misconceptions of which Mr. Inderwick discourses.

History of South Africa, 1691-1795. By George McCall Theal. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

ALL persons for whom the progress of South African colonization has more than a superficial interest will feel grateful to Mr. Theal, to say nothing of that smaller number to whom it may be a very substantial gain to find at a moment's notice definite information concerning the march of affairs in the Cape Colony during those centuries of European occupation before the English flag was hoisted on Cape Town Castle.

Mr. Theal's first volume embraced the course of events from 1486 to 1691. He has now finished his laborious task of evolving, chiefly from manuscript official documents, a connected story of the Dutch East India Company's relations as a governing power with South Africa. These documents are, he says, so voluminous that an ordinary lifetime would be too short to read those bearing on the period covered by the volume now under notice. Therefore he does not profess to have examined them all, but he declares that he has shirked nothing that seemed essential to the completion of his purpose; and though he lays no claim to have produced a history in the larger sense of that term, he maintains that "the general tenor of events as recorded in this volume must remain undisturbed" by any future work of a similar kind upon a more extensive scale. In truth, the fact that nearly a hundred years have elapsed since that memorable 16th of September, 1795, when "the Dutch troops marched out with colours flying and drums beating, passed by the English, and laid down their arms, surrendering as prisoners of war," and yet this is the first attempt to place a history of the Dutch occupation of South Africa in the hands of English readers, would seem to show that our national egotism has not greatly concerned itself with what happened previous to that capitulation; and it is scarcely probable that even this result of

Mr. Theal's laudable researches will whet many appetites to the extent of demanding a fuller examination of the Dutch East India Company's dryasdust materials. To know something of how those years (1486 to 1795) brought about the condition of things found when South Africa was first taken in hand by the English Government is, or should be, highly and widely interesting; but this solid and conscientiously compiled work, comprising some eight hundred closely printed pages, would appear to furnish sufficient for these days of high pressure and over-many books.

That "history repeats itself" is a truism of which the reader of these chapters is again and again reminded. It is the same whether the topic be the beginning of collisions with the original possessors of the soil; or the venality of the Dutch Company's ill-paid servants, who were permitted with disastrous results to eke out a living in the African dependency by perquisites gained at the expense of hard-working colonists; or the strictly protective and prohibitive system of trade and agriculture, undergoing perpetual alteration and continually failing to give satisfaction all round; or the question of slave labour, regarded in early days as a trifling detail, but growing to large and embarrassing proportions long before its perfect consistency with religion and good morals was gravely doubted in any part of Christendom. We find, moreover, that the value of intoxicating drinks as a source of revenue was understood and utilized at a comparatively early period in Cape history, and that the device of boycotting an unpopular or arbitrary official personage was occasionally practised by the sturdy Afrianders of old times. Wilhelm Andriaan Van der Stel—who owed his appointment as governor to the reputation of his father, one of the best and most honoured of Dutch colonial officers—proved unworthy of the name he bore. He gave himself over to self-aggrandizement, evaded the law that forbade a governor to hold land on his own account, and was, according to the popular voice, guilty of many malpractices, including the taking of bribes. He became aware that a number of the burghers, aggrieved by his acts of oppression, were taking steps to appeal to the directors, and among other high-handed measures intended to stay such a proceeding he sent a military force to the disaffected neighbourhood of Stellenbosch, charged with arresting the most notable malcontents by night. But the burghers designed for seizure were forewarned and absent, and the soldiers, after rambling about through the dark hours with the local Landrost at their head, found when morning came that no one in the village would sell them a morsel of food or answer a single question. Ultimately the governor was judged guilty on all counts and virtually banished from the Cape; and it is a curious punitive feature in his case, as well as a sign of those semi-patriarchal times, that the big house he had built for himself was pulled down as out of keeping with the habits proper to an industrious colony of freemen, in which it was inexpedient to encourage great differences of rank and style. Even as late as 1755 a regulation was passed forbidding any one save the governor to ride in a gilded coach,

and limiting the use of large umbrellas to men holding rank as senior merchants and ladies wedded to members of public boards.

But this kind of legislation, however well intentioned, did little in the long run towards creating a permanent love of simplicity and frugality at the Cape as people grew rich and the office of governor became a more splendid appointment. The last Dutch governor, Cornelius Jacob Van de Graaff, was installed in 1785, and we are told that he kept upwards of one hundred and thirty horses for his own requirements, together with an immense assortment of vehicles, and that he constituted his own son master of the stables, with unchecked power to waste and spend. The French, while ripening at home for the Revolution, which was an important though indirect factor in the eventual downfall of Dutch supremacy at the Cape, are credited with the development of luxurious tastes and love of lavish display among the colonists. Their vessels came laden with tempting fancy wares that created a demand for more. Cape Town, we are told, was nicknamed "Little Paris," and the generation succeeding those simple burghers who had submitted to restrictions upon the size of their umbrellas crowded their dwellings with sumptuous articles brought from all parts of Europe, and were served by swarms of household slaves. Mean time the Dutch East India Company was drifting to insolvency. Paper had nearly superseded silver pieces; and the farmers hardly cared to send produce to market, for cash down was rarely forthcoming, and they refused credit because accounts could be legally settled by notes, to which they objected partly from natural dislike to such currency, and partly because forgeries were common and difficult of detection.

Van de Graaff, the last Dutch governor, would seem to have been deservedly hated by the colonial *bourgeoisie*, and an amusing story is told of one of his many quarrels with individuals, which is delightfully suggestive of colonial amenities in those days as well as of his arbitrary disposition. He affirmed, it is not stated with how much show of reason, that a certain clergyman who delivered a sermon upon Jezebel's career had Madame de Graaff rather than Ahab's queen before his mind's eye while preaching, and chose this means of holding "the Governor's Lady" up to public opprobrium. To punish the reverend offender a board indicating that the name of the street where it stood was altered to Venus Street was fixed on the front of his parsonage, and was kept in that position, in spite of much remonstrance, until Governor Van de Graaff had left the Cape, when the original name, Berg Street, was restored.

Van de Graaff was recalled in 1791, but, being a favourite with the Stadholder of Holland, was allowed to retain his salary and title. Thenceforward the Cape Colony was ruled by commissioners, of whom the last, Abraham Josias Sluysken, has been handed down to Dutch posterity as a traitor on account of his share in the surrender of Cape Town to the English. Mr. Theal's chapter on this transaction is one of the most spirited in his volume.

It is worth noting that in 1716 the expediency of permitting the employment of

slave labour was seriously debated in the Council of Policy at the Cape charged with considering a series of important questions on the internal conduct of affairs propounded to them by the Dutch Company's directors. One man, Dominique de Chavonnes, commandant of the garrison, stood out strongly in favour of getting rid once and for all of slavery, which he likened to "a malignant sore in the human frame, keeping the colonists in a state of unrest," and went on to adduce economic arguments in favour of duly paid European service as cheaper in the long run. But a majority of seven members to one voted for the retention of slaves—then but a small number, and mostly men—for they saw no further than the present fact that "a slave could be maintained for 3*l.* a year, whereas a white labourer would cost more than 12*l.* a year." Mr. Theal adds: "Nothing was said about the bearing of the question upon the African. It was almost a century too soon in the world's history for his interests to be taken into consideration." Forty years later, and under the high-principled Governor Ryk Tulbagh, a very severe code of slave laws was drawn up as necessary to preserve the existing balance of power. One of these laws enacted that any bondsman or bondswoman raising even an unarmed hand against a master or mistress should be condemned to death without mercy; and another, that any slave found loitering about the door of a church when the congregation was leaving should be severely flogged. Trial was not considered necessary before the judicial flogging of a slave, and for graver offences the death penalty was aggravated by such conditions as "breaking the limbs on a wheel, impalement, and slow strangulation."

The Dutch colonists would seem to have been among the earliest supporters of compulsory education. In 1755 a widow at Cape Town failed to send her two children to school, and when waited on by the elders of the church stood upon her maternal right to have her own family taught or not as she pleased. The elders appealed to the Council of Policy, who admonished her in impressive terms without effect, and lastly the matter went before the above-mentioned Governor Tulbagh. He decided that the woman was to choose between sending her children to be brought up in the principles of Christianity and submitting herself to a flogging. This decision forced her to yield, and the children went to school. Mr. Theal has added to the value of his history by a capital index.

Chuang Tzu, Mystic, Moralist, and Social Reformer. Translated from the Chinese by Herbert A. Giles. (Quaritch.)

MYSTICISM is a faith that by its nature can only appeal to a comparatively few people. The common facts of every-day life are so directly subversive of it that it can find followers only among those on whom society has turned its back, and who seek to revenge themselves on an unsympathetic world by pretending to despise its pains and pleasures. To most men the actual is far more attractive than negation, and practical persons are slow to acknowledge that good and evil are the same, or that perfect hap-

piness is to be found in absence of happiness. Nor can there ever be many followers of a school which teaches that wealth and fame, life and success, are neither to be struggled for nor rejoiced in. All things are one, said the Taoist philosophers, and he who would become one with the Infinite, *i.e.*, with Tao, must rid himself of body and mind. "Having arrived at a state of absolute vacuity, keep yourself perfectly still," said Lao Tzu. All the evils of life come from action. A state is at peace and quiet until it is governed. The potter who outrages the nature of clay by converting it into a vessel, and the carpenter who perverts the nature of wood by carving a utensil out of it, make the mistake common to rulers. The heaven-born instincts of the people are corrupted by rule and government, and they when so debauched stray from the paths of peace and quiet. So does a man who strives after knowledge increase confusion, and he who seeks to be wise promotes folly.

Least of all was this creed likely to enlist the sympathies of Chinamen, who are nothing if they are not practical; and when, therefore, before it had gained sway, Confucianism entered into competition with it for the dominion over the minds of men, it sank into comparative insignificance, and its rival practically swept the board. There were, however, still some who, driven by the disorders of the time, sought mental refuge from actual oppression and misery by idealizing inaction, and by cultivating a belief in the mystical doctrines of the identity of contraries and the oneness of all things. These men enlisted under the banner of Lao Tzu, who taught in China a system which is known as Taoism, and which is clearly as much an offspring of Brahminism as Buddhism is. Its features and characteristics are purely Brahminical, and Brahma and Tao are identical in all things. Much mystery surrounds the personality of Lao Tzu, and it may even be doubted whether he was a Chinaman. Nothing is known of his early life or of his last days, and the traditional description of his appearance more nearly resembles that of a native of Central Asia than that of a Chinaman. After his disappearance from the China of that day his place was taken by disciples who strove to perpetuate his system. Among these Chuang Tzu stands out head and shoulders above his fellows. Of all the early Taoists whose writings have come down to us he seems to have imbibed most of the true spirit of Taoism; and next to the 'Tao t'eh king,' which is traditionally attributed to Lao Tzu, his great work, of which the present is a translation, is, with justice, the most highly esteemed.

The burden of his teaching was that existence and non-existence are the same, and that all things are one; that from this one, *i.e.* Tao, all men and things proceed, and to it all things return, losing in its embrace their separate existences, as the rivers become merged in the waters of the sea. The senses, he taught, are false witnesses, so that no one can be sure of the reality of anything. "Once on a time," he writes, "I dreamt I was a butterfly, fluttering hither and thither, to all intents and purposes a butterfly. I was conscious only of following my fancies as a butterfly, and was unconscious of my individuality as a man. Suddenly I awoke, and

there I lay, myself again. Now I do not know whether I was then a man dreaming I was a butterfly, or whether I am now a butterfly dreaming that I am a man."

In Mr. Giles's admirable version of Chuang Tzu the opinions and theories of that mystic are presented to us in a consistent and logical shape. Mr. Giles has, in fact, philosophized Chuang Tzu; and though faults may be found in the translations of certain passages, and though objections may be taken to the metaphysical terms employed, which find no place in the original, his readers will be none the less grateful to him for the clear conception he puts before them of Taoism as understood by Chuang Tzu. Mr. Aubrey Moore has added to the interest of the work by prefixing to the volume a thoughtful introductory note on the philosophy of chapters i. to vii., in which he points out certain parallelisms of thought and reasoning between Heraclitus and Chuang Tzu, and thus helps us towards the irresistible conclusion that the mysticisms of India, Greece, and China are one, though in different stages of development.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

A Lost Estate. By Mary E. Mann. 3 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

Monica. By Evelyn Everett-Green. 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)

When a Man's Single. By J. M. Barrie. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

The Grey Lady of Hardcastle. Edited by a Friend of the Family. (Burns & Oates.)

Mondaine. Par Hector Malot. (Paris, Charpentier.)

Alain de Kerisel. Par Léon de Tinseau. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

Petit Bleu. Par Gyp. (Paris, same publisher.)

If life were all gloom and disillusion 'A Lost Estate' might be called a most lifelike story, for there is scarce a patch of relieving brightness in it. The subjects with which it deals are not particularly pleasant in themselves. Natural badness and perverted goodness provide something like five-sixths of the materials out of which the narrative is woven; and the crowning incident, in which a woman makes one child kiss another for the purpose of infecting the first with diphtheria, is, under all the circumstances, especially repulsive. Nevertheless there is power in Mrs. Mann's work. Any one who remembers the story of 'The Parish of Hilby' will be quite prepared for a conscientious study of character, and for sketches displaying no slight skill. But the author might have done better to take a less painful group of facts and situations.

There is a terrible villain in the otherwise fairly placid story of 'Monica,' who works dire mischief with little apparent motive. He would be no more to the reader than a sort of malicious jack-in-the-box, always springing up at wrong moments, if Miss Everett-Green had not permitted her half-divine heroine to tolerate him, like him, and compromise herself with him. The villain is impossible, and the deflection in the character of such a woman as Monica is also impossible; and the death-bed repentance of Sir Conrad is told in the style of the stories of fifty years ago. Without being particularly captious the critic might quarrel with one

or two other situations in this romantic narrative which lack the touch of art; but fortunately the good points in 'Monica' outnumber its weaknesses. Miss Everett-Green is admirable in her delineation of feminine virtues, and she doubtless feels the necessity of a contrast to the extreme sweetness of her heroines. But she is not good at depicting men, and her villains are bogeys that never create a shudder.

It is almost superfluous to remark that Mr. Barrie's is a story which no lover of Scotland will read without being rewarded. The tale is rather thin, but the old people of Thrums are as good as ever; and although Rob Angus would seem little likely in real life to have drawn such a prize as the colonel's daughter, yet there are men who "make themselves" in a single generation, and such prodigies are commonly found to have been bred amid simple surroundings, and not far from communion with mother nature. Rob's experiences as a journalist involve some amusing episodes. A happy thought is that invention of a profession, the furnishing of rooms for interviews. Altogether Dick Abinger is a more interesting figure than Rob, finer strung, feeling more intensely underneath his cynicism, apart from the fact of his being made the vehicle of some excellent gnomical sentences on journalism. We are inclined to think with Tammas, the stone-breaker, "'at Rob was a lucky crittur to get sic a bonny wife."

In spite of its title, the ghostly element in 'The Grey Lady' is reduced to a minimum, and that is harmless. A certain amount of mild love-making, a couple or so of hair-breadth escapes, and a very inordinate quantity of theology from the Roman Catholic standpoint form its other main ingredients. The heroine, Alice Hardcastle, already "a Catholic by conviction" at the age of twenty, has a youthful enjoyment of burning discussions on the subject of her religious convictions, and her ritualistic young friends and relations share her taste for controversy. To the reader who has neither ritualistic nor Roman Catholic leanings the arguments are not likely to prove interesting, though somewhat curious historical statements are to be found in them. Miss Hardcastle seizes the opportunity of her father's supposed death by drowning to be received into the Roman Catholic Church, a step he had violently opposed; hence a little domestic persecution on the squire's unexpected restoration to his sorrowing family, followed by the final triumph of Alice and her union with her moribund, but converted cousin. Her influence, however, does not stop here, but also interposes a most unnecessary division between an otherwise united young couple who have the misfortune to be related to her. The book would certainly have a better chance of success if it were less heavily handicapped by a strongly marked dogmatic purpose.

'Mondaine' is one of the best of M. Malot's books. It is pleasant to read, and contains a strong portrait, that of the wealthy *bourgeoise* married to a man of family, whose leading idea in life is to advertise herself, her parties, and her dress in Paris newspapers. The novel ends with a melancholy situation, represented by the author as though it were tolerable, or even

pleasant. But the conventional ending, arrived at by killing people who are in the way, is even further removed from the truths of existence than is that of M. Malot's 'Mondaine.'

'Alain de Kerisel' is as good a novel as has appeared for some time, and contains the most lifelike account of daily life at sea that we have met with of recent years. Punkahs off Crete on the "26th of October" are, however, out of place, and greatcoats would be far more useful to passengers returning from the tropics. We wish that M. de Tinsseau had not charged England with attempting to prevent the annexation of Tonquin to France.

In her new volume Gyp leaves aside for once her well-known characters, and becomes more "presentable" to the British public. 'Petit Bleu' is a beautiful story of convent life which might pass muster almost anywhere, and the other stories are in modesty half-way between this one and those which, to use the author's own phrase, are "sans voiles." The later portion of the volume is a little "thin."

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

India, by Sir John Strachey, G.C.S.I. (Kegan Paul), consists of a series of lectures delivered by him in 1884 before the University of Cambridge, enlarged and corrected up to date. His object has been to present in a clear and definite form the main facts relating to India itself and our rule there: its justification, its difficulties, and its prospects. Those who seek a clear exposition of the system of our government in India need not go beyond the volume before us. Sir John Strachey is anxious to do equal justice to the Government of India and to the Council of the Secretary of State, to which he now belongs. Among the more ardent and the younger administrators in India there is a tendency to look upon the Council in Downing Street as obstructive and old-fashioned, and it is not uncommon to hear our rule described as "a benevolent despotism tempered by the indiscretions of a Secretary of State." Sir John Strachey, however, vouches for the fact that the interference of the Secretary of State with the action of the Government of India is extremely small, and is practically limited to matters of great importance. He urges that in such matters the control of the Indian Council, consisting for the most part of men who have seen much service, is absolutely necessary, owing to the incessant process of change in the *personnel* of the administration in India and the constant waste of mature experience. In respect to finances—as to which Sir John Strachey speaks with the authority of an ex-finance minister—India, he says, has become one of the great powers of the world. In 1840 the gross revenues of India were 21,000,000*l.* sterling; in 1857, the year before the assumption of the government by the Crown, they were 32,000,000*l.*; in 1886 they were 77,000,000*l.* In 1840 the total value of foreign trade was 20,000,000*l.*; in 1857 it was 55,000,000*l.*; and in 1886 it was 163,000,000*l.* In conclusion, we commend to the attention of all students of Indian history the timely remarks of Sir John Strachey as to the non-existence of any history of British India which is trustworthy and complete in its facts, and which at the same time possesses the essential quality of literary excellence. Since the earlier part of the present century the old stories of the crimes by which the establishment of our power in India was attended have been passed on from one author to another. A few students know that for the most part these stories are false, and that, in the words of Sir Alfred Lyall, the hardihood and endurance of the men who won for England an empire were

equalled only by the general justice and patience with which they pacified and administered it. This also was the opinion of Sir Henry Maine, who ascribed the perversion of history in question to the fact that at the beginning of the present century, when India was the chief topic of the great writers and rhetoricians—such as Burke, Sheridan, Fox, and Francis—English classical literature was saturated with party politics.

MR. W. T. STEAD'S *Truth about Russia* (Cassell & Co.) having for the most part already appeared in print—some of it, indeed, twice over—it is not necessary for us to discuss it at great length. A little less haste and it would have been a better book, but, as it stands, it is a remarkable proof of the ability of its writer. The journalistic habit of over-statement, intended to produce effect, is noticeable throughout, as well as some controversial unfairness, but the volume is well worth perusal. As a specimen of newspaper "slapdash" we may point to the description of General Ignatieff as "the Russian Mr. Gladstone," while in another chapter Sir William White is styled "the English Ignatieff," and we are left in doubt as to the relation of Mr. Gladstone to Sir William White. If, but for nationality, Sir William White = General Ignatieff, while General Ignatieff = Mr. Gladstone, we should have thought that the conclusion Mr. Gladstone = Sir William White must force itself upon the mind. As an example of unfairness we may quote the declaration, "According to popular prejudice in England, the Tzar" (why does Mr. Stead follow the Polish and not the Russian spelling?) "is the great disturber of the peace." There is an obvious ambiguity in the words "the Tzar," and the prejudice, if prejudice it be, which makes of Russia a disturber of the peace is not met by the proof, admirable and convincing though it is, that the present occupant of the Russian throne is at the present moment peaceful. He may be conquered by a war party, as his father was; he may be removed by the hand of the assassin, as was his father. The general value of the book is shown by the fact that Mr. Stead has undoubtedly been instrumental in causing a true view of the excellent side of the character of the present Emperor of the Russias to prevail in England. Moreover, no other foreign writer on Russia—neither Sir Donald Wallace, nor Mr. Hepworth Dixon, nor M. Leroy-Beaulieu—has so well described the wickedness of Russian official religious persecution. Mr. Stead's childlike innocence in believing what he wants to believe is clearly exhibited in the following paragraph: "'That is all very well,' I replied, 'but do you want the keys of the Bosphorus in order to exclude the Black Sea from the arena of war, or do you want to shut us out in order to convert the Black Sea into an immense arsenal, from which, at a given moment, a new Armada might issue forth and join hands with the French to sweep the British flag from the Mediterranean?' Nothing of that, I was always assured, was dreamed of by the Russians."

BIOGRAPHIES continue to collect on our table. *The Life of William B. Robertson, D.D.*, of Irvine, by Dr. J. Brown (Glasgow, MacLehose), contains an account of a minister of the United Presbyterian Church who was not only a popular preacher and lecturer, but possessed a variety of tastes not common among Dissenting ministers in Scotland. He was a fluent versifier, if not a poet; he was something of a musician, he was interested in archæology, and he was fond of pictures; and although loyal to his own communion he was tolerant, and created no little dismay at Irvine by proposing that some French sailors, whose bodies had been washed ashore, should be buried with the rites of the Church of Rome.—*The Life and Letters of William Fleming Stevenson, D.D.*, by his Wife (Nelson & Sons), contains a memoir of an Irish Presbyterian who, like Dr. Robertson, studied in Germany, and held a position of much influence in his own Church. He was greatly con-

cerned in superintending the missions of his Church, and was highly respected by men of various creeds. His widow has written his biography with considerable tact and taste.

It is impossible for us to write at length with regard to so strictly political a volume as *L'Irlande et l'Angleterre depuis l'Acte d'Union jusqu'à nos Jours*, by M. Francis de Pressensé, published by MM. Plon, Nourrit & Co., of Paris. M. Pressensé began to write upon the history of Ireland with a certain prejudice against the Nationalist party, but, as he himself states in his preface, by the time he reached the conclusion of his work he had a strong feeling the other way. The book will not, on the whole, be found very interesting or valuable by English readers, and is inferior to a series of twenty-five letters on Ireland which lately appeared in the *République Française*, and are to be reprinted as a volume.

In the *Educational Annual*, 1889 (Philip & Son), the compiler, Mr. E. Johnson, assigns the first and most important place to the Royal Commission on Elementary Education. A long comprehensive résumé of reports and recommendations of the Commission is given, followed by the current code of the Education Department, and the chief instructions, circulars, &c., issued to Her Majesty's inspectors and others concerned with grant-aided schools. More than half the volume is devoted to primary instruction, and our system of national education as it exists at present is fairly and fully described. The second part of the manual treats of secondary education. Mr. Johnson supplies a general sketch of its condition—at present by no means satisfactory—and then adds a mass of useful facts concerning "the schools and colleges of England and Wales intermediate in grade between public elementary schools and the universities." The schools and colleges will be found in alphabetical order under counties, while institutions devoted to "agricultural, evening, medical, musical, or technical education have been placed under separate headings." The list of schools, &c., is approximately complete, and the descriptive information given appears, so far as we have had opportunity of verifying it, trustworthy, although in several instances it should have been somewhat more comprehensive. The general index is ample so far as concerns matters in the Education Code, but for outside matters enlargement is desirable.

We have received from Messrs. Street & Co. *Street's Indian and Colonial Mercantile Directory*, 1888-9, and have only to say that this useful book appears to be as well executed as usual; and from Messrs. Kelly & Co. *Kelly's Handbook to the Titled, Landed, and Official Classes*, a work of which we have previously spoken in high praise, and which continues thoroughly to deserve such praise.

MESSRS. DEAN & SON have sent us their handsome "royal edition" of *Debrett's Peerage, Baronetage, and Knightage*. The volume is, as usual, brought up to date with remarkable care. *The British Imperial Calendar* (Warrington & Co.) has reached its eightieth year. It is a highly useful book, and its index makes it convenient to consult; while the 'Companion' contains some handy lists. *The Service Almanack* of Messrs. Harrison is cheap and useful. We may be excused for pointing out that 'The Chronological Synopsis of the British Army' has the common defect of leading the reader to believe that the British army was never defeated except at Almanza and Fontenoy. A Dutchman would probably give a different account of the naval fights of 1665-1673 from what is found on p. 3, and remember that his countrymen sailed up the Thames in triumph. The printer's devil has provided the great Napoleon with a new marshal on p. 64.

We have received the *Reports* of the Cardiff, Cheltenham, and Salford free libraries. The Cardiff committee speak of their prosperity

and talk of opening branch libraries. They also send us a *Catalogue of Music* in their lending library (Cardiff, Owen & Co.). At Cheltenham also and Salford things are prosperous, although from Salford comes the complaint of limited means; at Cheltenham the new building is nearly finished. Catalogues of the lending libraries at Belfast (Belfast, Carswell & Son) and West Bromwich (Oldbury, Midland Printing Company) are also on our table. The latter has reached a fourth edition. From Paddington we have received the first annual report of its free library, which is supported by voluntary contributions, as the ratepayers refused to adopt the Act.

The following booksellers have forwarded their catalogues: Mr. Baker (largely theological), Messrs. Dulau (zoology), Mr. Higham, Messrs. Jarvis, Mr. Marvell (a handsome catalogue on large paper of books on magic, alchemy, &c., introduced by a mystic preface), and Messrs. Sotheman (rather interesting); also Mr. Clay (chemistry) and Mr. Thin (Oriental literature mostly) of Edinburgh, Mr. Hopkins of Glasgow (fairly interesting), Mr. Simmons of Leamington, and Mr. Howell of Liverpool.

We have on our table *History of the Waldenses of Italy*, by E. Comba, translated by T. E. Comba (Truslove & Shirley),—*Imperial Germany: a Critical Study of Fact and Character*, by S. Whitman (Trübner),—*Lives of the Seven Sons of George III.*, by J. E. Ritchie (Charles & Co.),—*Juvenile Literature as It Is*, by E. Salmon (Drane),—*Col. Quaritch, V.C.*, by H. Rider Haggard, 3 vols. (Longmans),—*Flowers and Fruit from the Writings of Harriet Beecher Stowe*, arranged by Abbie H. Fairfield (Low),—*Narrative and Legendary Poems*, by John Greenleaf Whittier, Vol. I. (Macmillan),—*Semblance, and other Poems*, by C. T. Lusted (Kegan Paul),—*Lyrical Dramas, Poems, and Translations*, by E. Exon (Melbourne, Mullen),—*The Grand Army Speaker*, edited by G. M. Baker (Routledge),—*The Baglioni: a Tragedy*, by F. L. Cartwright (Field & Tuer),—*Ballads of the North Country*, edited by G. R. Tomson (W. Scott),—*Scraps by a Sailor*, by W. M. Crealock (Wyman & Son),—*A History of the Independents or Dissenters at Mortlake*, by J. E. Anderson (Laurie),—*Great Thoughts, a Birthday Book* (Marcus Ward),—*The Holy Scriptures in Ireland One Thousand Years Ago*, translated by the Rev. T. Olden (Dublin, Hodges, Figgis & Co.),—*Moffatt's Edition of the Gospel according to St. Matthew* (Moffatt & Paige),—*Christmas Eve*, by L. S. M. (Bradford, Sewell),—*Light through the Crannies*, First Series (Longmans),—*The Thumb Bible*, by Bishop Jeremy Taylor (Hodder & Stoughton),—*The Divine Unity and Trinity*, by H. H. Jeffreson (Kegan Paul),—*Le Mari de Lucienne*, by Yves de Noly (Paris, Lévy),—and *Volksbuch über die Kunst glücklich zu Werden*, by N. Grabowsky (Würzburg, Kressner). Among New Editions we have *An Introduction to French Authors*, by A. Charlin (Hachette),—*Corinna*, by Rita (Spencer Blackett),—*Dulcibel's Day-Dreams*, by E. Marshall (Nisbet),—and *Roots, a Plea for Tolerance* (Bentley).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Farrar's (Archdeacon) *Lives of the Fathers*, 2 vols. 8vo. 24/ cl. Oman's (J. C.) *Indian Life, Religious and Social*, cr. 8vo. 6/ On the Book of the Prophet Daniel, Brief Comments, 2/6 cl. Shedd's (W. G. T.) *Dogmatic Theology*, 2 vols. 8vo. 25/ cl. Taylor's (Rev. W. M.) *Elijah the Prophet; Daniel the Beloved*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 each, cl.

Law.

Bigelow's (M. M.) *Elements of the Law of Torts*, cr. 8vo. 10/6 Rudall (A. R.) and Grieg's (J. W.) *The Trustees Act, 1888*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Poetry.

Kenworthy's (J. C.) *The Judgment of the City*, and other Poems and Verses, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Somerset's (Lord H.) *Songs of Adieu*, 6/ parchment. Wordsworthiana, a Selection from Papers read to the Wordsworth Society, ed. by W. Knight, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

History and Biography.

Casquet's (F. A.) *Henry VIII. and the English Monasteries*, Vol. 2, 8vo. 12/ cl.

Green's (J. R.) *Short History of the English People*, Parts 1 and 2, cr. 8vo. 3/ each, cl. Rawlinson's (G.) *Phœnicia*, 5/ cl. (Story of the Nations.) Thomson (James) ("B. V.") *Life of*, with a Selection of his Letters, &c., by H. S. Salt, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl. Welles's (A.) *Genealogical Chronology*, 4to. 25/ half-calf.

Geography and Travel.

Baedeker's (K.) *Greece, Handbook for Travellers*, 18mo. 10/ Parry's (Major G.) *Sketches of a Yachting Cruise*, 8vo. 10/6 Wingfield's (Hon. Lewis) *Wanderings of a Globe-Trotter*, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.

Philology.

Clare's (E.) *First Elements of French Grammar*, cr. 8vo. 2/ Hatch's (E.) *Essays in Biblical Greek*, 8vo. 10/3 cl. Hauff's (W.) *Das Bild des Kaisers*, edited by J. F. Davies, 12mo. 2/ cl.

Lange's (F.) *Concise German Grammar, First and Second Course*, cr. 8vo. 2/ each. *Selecta ex Justino, Cesare, Cicerone in usum Regie Scholæ Etonensis*, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.

Science.

Andrews's (T.) *Scientific Papers*, with Memoir by P. G. Tait and A. C. Brown, 8vo. 18/ cl.

Clarke's (J. W.) *Plumbing Practice*, 8vo. 8/ cl. Coxwell's (H.) *My Life and Balloon Experiences*, Second Series, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Hasluck's (P. N.) *Model Engineers' Handybook*, cr. 8vo. 2/ Peattie's (J.) *Steam Boilers, their Management and Working*, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.

Reynier's (E.) *The Voltaic Accumulator, an Elementary Treatise*, translated by J. A. Berly, 8vo. 9/ cl.

Sexton's (A. H.) *Elementary Inorganic Chemistry, Theoretical and Practical*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Stone's (T. W.) *Notes on Water Supply in New Countries*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

General Literature.

Curtis's (E. J.) *A Game of Chance*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.

Dead Leman (The), and other Tales from the French, by A. Lang and P. Sylvester, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Doncaster's (M. W.) *Luxurious Modern Cookery*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 French Janet, by Author of 'Citoyenne Jacqueline,' 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.

Gibson's (G. R.) *Stock Exchange of London, Paris, and New York*, cr. 8vo. 4/ cl.

Hogan's (J. F.) *The Australian in London and America*, 6/ cl. Kavanagh's (J.) *Two Lilies*, cr. 8vo. 2/ bds.

Nottin's (G. E.) *A Loyal Heart, a Story of the Crimean War*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

O'Hanlan's (A.) *Chance? or Fate? 3 vols.* cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl. Pask's (A. T.) *The Eyes of the Thames*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Phallien, a Description of the Worship of Lingam-Yoni, 7/6 Robinson's (F. M.) *Mr. Butler's Ward*, cheap edition, 2/ bds. Sheringham's (J. W.) *Stromata*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. limp.

Winter's (J. S.) *Harvest*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Wood's (H. F.) *The Englishman of the Rue Cain*, cr. 8vo. 6/

Wright's (J. C.) *Outlines of English Literature*, cr. 8vo. 2/ cl. Zola's (E.) *A Soldier's Honour*, and other Stories, cheap edition, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Hesse (F. H.): *Die Entstehung der Neutestamentlichen Hirtenbriefe*, 6m.

Mari (K.): *Der Prophet Jeremia v. Anatot*, 1m. 20.

Menzel (P.): *Der Griechische Einfluss auf Prediger u. Weisheit Salomos*, 1m. 20.

Wirgand (A.): *August Neanders Leben*, dargestellt f. Studierende der Theologie, 3m.

Philosophy.

Dubuc (P.): *Essai sur la Méthode en Métaphysique*, 5fr.

History and Biography.

Bertrand (P.): *Lettres inédites de Talleyrand à Napoléon, 1800-1809*, 7fr. 50.

Daniel (A.): *L'Année Politique 1888*, 3fr. 50.

Wallon (H.): *Les Représentants du Peuple en Mission (1793-94)*, Vol. 2, 7fr. 50.

Geography and Travel.

Petersen (E.) u. Luschian (F. v.): *Reisen in Südwestlichen Kleinasien*, Vol. 2, 150m.

Science.

Kiessling (J.): *Untersuchungen üb. Dämmerungserscheinungen*, 36m.

General Literature.

Ferneuil (Th.): *Les Principes de 1789 et la Science Sociale*, 3fr. 50.

Loti (P.): *Japoneries d'Automne*, 3fr. 50.

Maupassant (G. de): *Les Cours Étrangers*, 3fr. 50.

Monselet (C.): *Promenades d'un Homme de Lettres*, 3fr. 50.

Simon (J.): *Souviens-toi du Deux-Décembre*, 3fr. 50.

THE LATE CAPT. MAYNE REID.

1, Edwards Terrace, Kensington, Jan. 28, 1889.

We wonder much that no one has yet pointed out in your columns that, at least, of the books now advertised (by Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein & Co.) as the "posthumous works" of the late Capt. Mayne Reid were published in his lifetime.

We have on our shelves 'The Child Wife,' 3 vols., dated 1868, and 'The Death Shot,' 3 vols., dated 1873, and these would be more correctly described as new editions than as new books.

FARMER & SONS.

THE BOOK SALES OF 1888.

THOSE who look upon the auctioneer as an evil, even though a necessary one, may comfort themselves temporarily with the reflection that

the book sales of 1888 fall, both in quality and in extent, much below those of the preceding six or eight years. According to *Book Prices Current*, the number of high-class auctions which take place during an average season may be calculated at about seventy; the one that has lately closed has only forty-nine to its credit, and the lots disposed of were, with exceptions, remarkable for their mediocrity. It is quite possible that accidental circumstances may regulate the market to a greater or less extent; but the question of a gradual absorption into the numerous public libraries now springing up all over the country is one that cannot be overlooked. Should this prove as important a factor as it would seem at first sight, the tastes of the majority of collectors will be forced into other channels, and the modern book of limited issue will then take the place of those relics of antiquity which drain the purse in proportion to the difficulty in obtaining them.

The season 1887-8 opened with the Husk sale, on the 7th and 8th of December of the former year. The books were good of their kind, but not valuable, the highest price realized being 8*l.* 10*s.* for a copy of Nichols's 'Literary Anecdotes,' 17 vols. 8vo. 1812-58. The only lot of much note at the Stourhead sale, which took place a few days later, was an extra illustrated specimen of Hoare's 'Modern Wiltshire,' in 6 vols. folio, large paper, 1822-43. The amount paid (200*l.*) shows that admirers of the barbaric system of 'Grangerizing' are not yet extinct, though doubtless competitors would have been more numerous forty years ago.

Gould's ornithological works invariably bring large sums—in fact, the bidding commences at a high figure, and varies but little, whenever examples occur for sale. 50*l.* for the 'Trochilidae,' 200*l.* for 'The Birds of Australia,' and 60*l.* for 'The Birds of Europe' are average prices, condition as usual having everything to do with any material variation that may exist in particular cases. This average was during the season amply maintained, the first-named book selling for 35*l.*, 58*l.*, and 64*l.*; 'The Birds of Australia' for 136*l.* and 220*l.*; and 'The Birds of Europe' for 57*l.* and 70*l.* respectively. 'The Birds of Asia' brought 12*l.* and 10*l.* at different sales, 'The Birds of Great Britain,' 36*l.*, 'Birds from the Himalayas,' 16*l.* and 19*l.*, and the 'Trogonidae,' 12*l.*

If Lodge's 'Portraits,' in 4 vols. royal folio, 1821-34, large paper, 58*l.*, and Dugdale's 'Monasticon,' 1817-30, folio, 24*l.* 10*s.*, be noted, there is positively nothing further worthy of mention during the remainder of the year 1887, and it is not until we advance far into the following year that choicer examples become numerous. A passing reference may, however, be made to 'Bentley's Miscellany,' 1837 to 1868, in all 64 vols. 8vo., 27*l.* (Carter sale, January, 1888), and the Oriental Translation Fund Publications, 30 vols. 4to. and 33 vols. 8vo., 1829-42, 21*l.* 10*s.* (*ibid.*). The first edition of Burton's 'Anatomy of Melancholy,' if possessing the leaf of *errata* at the end, is scarce. A good example with this desirable addition realized 25*l.* 10*s.* at the sale of a miscellaneous collection in February, and at the same time no less than 12*l.* 10*s.* was obtained for the 'Pickwick Papers' in the original parts. Had these parts been carefully bound the book would not have brought more than 4*l.*, and possibly not even that. Heywood's works in 4to., 1562, brought 10*l.* 15*s.*, a small price, sufficiently accounted for when it is explained that the last leaf was in facsimile. At this miscellaneous sale a unique copy of 'Paradise Lost' sold for 15*l.* It was the first edition of 1668, but there were seven preliminary leaves not previously observed by any bibliographer. It may safely be predicted that a few years hence this copy will be worth five or six times the amount given for it.

On March 1st and two following days the library of the late Mr. Douglas Stewart was brought to the hammer in Wellington Street.

Without the slightest pretensions to rank with such collections as the Syson Park and Crawford, this library was, nevertheless, remarkable, as it contained nearly one hundred lots entirely devoted to Cruikshankiana, as well as some very choice examples of Dickens, Fielding, Smollett, and Rowlandson. Works on cockfighting and other forms of obsolete "sport" were also there in great profusion, and the prices obtained were inordinately high. The Douglas Stewart sale will long be remembered as the modern collector's chance, not only of one, but of several seasons, for securing the illustrated first editions of modern authors he covets, in the best condition and at the highest price.

The Aylesford collection, dispersed by Messrs. Christie in the same month of March, proved disappointing. The books were good of their kind, but of a class not much sought after at the present day. There were, of course, exceptions, and among these may be noted Andrews's 'Engravings of Heaths,' 4 vols. folio, 1802-9, 13*l.* 15*s.*; Arnold's 'Chronicle,' printed at Antwerp by Doesbrowe in 1502, folio, 88*l.*; Aubrey's 'Antiquities of Surrey,' 5 vols., on large paper, 1719, 8vo., 34*l.*; the second edition of the Bishops' Bible, printed by Richard Jugge in 1572, from the library of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, with his arms on the sides, 90*l.*; and the Earl of Bute's 'Botanical Tables,' 9 vols. 4to., 1785, of which only twelve copies were printed, 60*l.* Whitechurch's Book of Common Prayer, 1549, 4to., is at all times an exceedingly scarce and valuable example of early typography; but with the rare leaf ordering the price of the volume, viz., 2*s.* 6*d.* unbound and 4*s.* bound, it becomes *presque* unique; 125*l.* was not considered too high a figure to pay under these favourable circumstances.

The number of Shakspeare folios offered for sale decreases every year. At the Aylesford sale the first folio realized 200*l.*, the second folio, 140*l.*, the third, 93*l.*, and the fourth, 29*l.* Of these, however, only the last was perfect. Of the early quartos there was not a single specimen, and as a matter of fact only three, and these indifferent copies, have been offered for sale during the last two years.

There is at present what is known as a "run" on early printed American works, or, indeed, on all early printed books relating to that continent wherever published. Thus at the Martin sale (March) a pamphlet of thirty-five pages, printed at New York in 1719, entitled 'The Charter and Laws of the City of New York,' sold for 75*l.*, and a 'Brief Description of the Province of Carolina,' 4to., 1666, for 46*l.* The "verie eye," as the late Mr. Stevens had it, of New England literature is, however, the 'Epistola' of Columbus, of which there are several editions. One of these—that supposed to have been printed by Planck at Rome in 1493—was sold at the Crawford sale last year for 236*l.*, being at the rate of nearly 1*l.* for every line of print. It will doubtless be a long time before another is unearthed and put up for public competition.

We now come to what is generally considered to be the sale of the season, viz., the dispersal of the second portion of the library of the late Mr. Gibson-Craig, which occupied Messrs. Sotheby & Co. for fifteen days. The first and by far the best portion had been previously disposed of in June and July, 1887, by the same firm, and the books that were left, though desirable, would not have been specially noticeable but for the almost universal dearth which prevailed all through the season. A block book, supposed to have been printed about the year 1500, sold for 20*l.* 10*s.*; and a work ('Camera-rius de Prædestinatione,' 1556, folio) bound in white leather, the sides blind tooled with the emblems of Diana of Poitiers, for 146*l.* Both these were, of course, mere curiosities; but the prices realized clearly show that many collectors regard their books as so many pieces of *bric-à-brac* and value them accordingly. In fact, this is the tendency of the modern school of biblio-

philes, which advocates the payment of 78*l.* for the 'Prognosticatio' of Liechtenberger, printed at Cologne in 1526, not because the book is intrinsically worth any such sum, but on account of the inscriptions in letters of gold, "Io Gr et amicum" at the bottom of the cover, and on the reverse "Portio mea Domine sit in Terra Viventium." It is a known fact that books from the library of the famous Grolier are worth their weight in gold, no matter what the intrinsic value may be. It would be a misnomer to call the Kilmarnock edition of Burns's 'Poems' a curiosity, but the price paid for it (111*l.*) certainly merits that appellation. This is the highest figure ever paid for this small, but rare work, and perhaps the magic of "some uncut leaves" had much to do with the result; 50*l.* also seems an enormous price to give for the first edition of Byron's 'Waltz,' 4to., 1813. Saxton's 'Maps of England and Wales,' published in 1579, is another curious book, which, when perfect, sells for somewhere about 50*l.*; the Gibson-Craig copy had a modern reprint of the portrait, and therefore only brought 31*l.* A copy of the *princeps* Walton was sold for 23*l.*, as fourteen leaves were absent, this making a difference to the estate of perhaps 40*l.*, and, under certain conceivable circumstances, more. The total number of lots at this sale was 5,364, which realized 7,907*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* The first portion of the same library consisted of 2,927 lots, and realized 6,803*l.* 8*s.*, a very much better record.

The remaining sales up to the end of May show nothing of importance. The Breese Library, dispersed on the last day of that month, contained a number of Welsh printed books, among which is noticeable the 'Testament Newydd ein Arglwydd Jesu Christ,' 1567, 4to., which sold for 58*l.* The collections of the Powys-Land Club, in 13 vols. 8vo., 1868-80, brought 11*l.*; and Eytton's 'Antiquities of Shropshire,' 12 vols. 8vo., 1854-60, 31*l.* It will be remembered that the year 1888 was the tercentenary of the publication of the first Bible in the Welsh language (Morgan's Bible, London, Christopher Barker, 1588, a good copy of which sold by auction in June, 1887, for 60*l.*).

The Turner sale (Sotheby, June 18th and eleven subsequent days) was productive of some good lots, for which competition ran high. 'Los quatro Libros del Eñorçado y Virtuoso Cavallero Amadis de Gaula,' printed at Salamanca in 1519, brought 56*l.*; and another edition of 1533, in folio, 28*l.* Another book of the same class, 'Arthur King of Britaine and Acts of his Valiant Knights of the Round Table,' 3 vols. 4to., 1634, sold for 14*l.* Brandt's 'Stultifera Navis,' Paris, 1498, realized 27*l.*; Coryat's 'Crudities,' hastily gobbled up in five Moneths Travells, 1611, 4to., 40*l.* 10*s.*; and Glanvill's 'Batman upon Bartholome his Booke,' 35*l.* The most astonishing price certainly seems to be the 61*l.* paid for Rogers's 'Italy' and 'Poems,' in 2 vols., 1830-4; but it must be noted that both volumes were splendidly bound by Bedford in morocco extra, covered with minute gold tooling, relieved by variegated leathers in the Grolier style, and this makes a wonderful difference.

The highest figure reached during the season was 555*l.* paid for twelve tracts bound in one small quarto volume. As might have been expected, these brochures related to America, and comprised such rarities as Hamor's 'True Discourse of the present Estate of Virginia,' 1615; Cotton's 'Abstract of the Laws of New England,' 1641; and Ashley's 'Relation of Cochin-China,' 1633. At the same sale (the Wimpole Library) nine other tracts, also relating to America, sold for 66*l.*; Catton's 'Game and Play of Chess,' imperfect, 1475, 260*l.*; and the same printer's 'Myrrour of the Worlde,' very imperfect, 1481, 60*l.* All the lots at this sale, which together did not number 250, were of the rarest description, but a great many of the books were imperfect.

After the Wimpole dispersion the season

languished to its close, showing nothing out of the common, and hardly meriting notice at all. Reference may, however, be made to a sum of 35*l.* paid for a copy of Lamb's 'Poetry for Children,' London, 1809. It is said that only one other copy of this infantile production is known to exist, and I cannot help thinking that if Lamb had burnt the entire stock it would have been better for the purchaser. Now that attention has been called to the book further discoveries are almost certain to be made, and with the inevitable result.

Though the larger dispersions are more interesting to wealthy purchasers, there is much to be learnt from the smaller and less important sales, because it is from them that the popular fancy can most certainly be gauged. At the larger auctions bidders are apt to raise their prices, and frequently pay more than the normal value of what they buy, thus setting an example which more often than not proves contagious, and affects the humbler class of purchaser. From a comparison of the prices realized at these smaller auctions I draw the following conclusions; and if there is any reliance at all to be placed on such evidence, or any possibility of foretelling the course of events dependent upon mere caprice, then the truth should not be far distant.

Early printed books relating to America are steadily increasing in value and should still increase. The same remark applies to works printed in Scotland during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Art books are decreasing in value, the works of Ruskin, Hamerton, Turner, and a few others being exceptions, and it is predicted that they will fall still lower. Old English works which derive their interest from typographical considerations appear to be stationary, so are illustrated first editions of modern authors, such as Ainsworth, Dickens, Lever, and Thackeray, the probability being that these latter have at last reached the zenith of their fame and value. Old Bibles are, as usual, much sought after, but the prices paid are stationary. Books on witchcraft, magic, and kindred subjects realize high prices, and a few years hence will be difficult to procure at all, unless, indeed, Mr. Redway or some other astute purchaser cares to duplicate his stock while there is time and keep it under lock and key, for the benefit of the next generation. County histories and other topographical works are improving, so are treatises on antiquarian subjects. Sporting books never grow out of date, and, it may be added, never sell for less than they are worth. First editions of modern authors which are not illustrated—such, for instance, as the works of Byron and Scott—have, as a rule, been selling for a few shillings each, but a sharp upward tendency is clearly observable in them at last. I have had occasion to point to this class of work before as one of the best investments in the market. They are still cheap and easily attainable, and will be valuable hereafter, though probably they will never be so eagerly sought after as the earliest editions of Shelley in their covers of green.

J. H. SLATER.

DOUAI COLLEGE AND THE BRIGHTON PAVILION.

Signet Library, Jan. 28, 1889.

THE review of Mr. Gillow's 'Haydock Papers' in the *Athenæum* of last week very justly calls for proof of the editor's statement that the money paid by France in 1815, by way of indemnity for the property lost by the English College at Douai, was not handed over to the rightful owners, but, on the ground that such property was devoted to "superstitious purposes," was spent by the British Government in paying off the debts incurred by the Prince of Wales in building the Brighton Pavilion. This story is a current tradition among Roman Catholics, and may be found in print in Weale's 'Handbook to Belgium' (1859), where the exact sum paid by the French to the British Government is set down at 90,000*l.* Mr. Weale also

gives no authority; and in the absence of evidence for so strange a tale, the somewhat different account of the matter given by the Abbé Dancoisne in his 'Histoire des Établissements Religieux Britanniques fondés à Douai,' &c., may be perhaps accepted as authentic.

At the armistice which preceded the peace of Amiens the proprietors of the college obtained restitution of the buildings by virtue of a letter from the Minister of Finances, dated September 17th, 1801. They then rented the college for a spinning factory, and finally, in 1834, ceded it to the State for the modest sum of 80,000 fr. The buildings are now used, as is well known, for an arsenal of artillery under the name of "Les Grands Anglais."

As to the college which the English Benedictines possessed in the same town, it appears that by an ordinance of Louis XVIII., September 4th, 1816, all their property, movable and immovable (except what had been already sold, and the church of St. Gregory of which the ownership was a disputed point), was restored to Thomas Lawson, the former prior; and accordingly in 1818 the English Benedictines returned to their old quarters in the Rue St. Benoît.

What was the precise form in which compensation was made to the Scotch College I am unable to say, but it may reasonably be doubted if any portion of the proceeds found its way to the Treasury or to the pockets of the creditors of George IV.

T. G. LAW.

Literary Cross-p.

AN authorized memoir of the life and work of the late Mr. Laurence Oliphant is to be undertaken under the superintendence of his widow, and in the mean time premature attempts at biographies, which must necessarily be imperfect or misleading, are deprecated by his representatives, who will be grateful for the co-operation of any of Mr. Oliphant's correspondents in their task. Copies or originals of any of Laurence Oliphant's letters will be received by Messrs. William Blackwood & Sons, 45, George Street, Edinburgh, and safely transmitted to Mrs. Rosamond Dale Oliphant.

THE two new volumes of 'Letters of Carlyle' which Prof. C. E. Norton has edited are mostly addressed to the various members of Carlyle's family, and afford a tolerably continuous account of his life from his marriage to the period when his fame was about to be established by the publication of his 'French Revolution.' Messrs. Macmillan are to publish them speedily.

'THE LIFE OF STEELE,' by Mr. G. A. Aitken, to which we referred some time ago, is now in the printer's hands, and will be published by Messrs. Isbister during the autumn. The work, which will be in two volumes, will contain, it is said, a large amount of fresh information, and will be illustrated by several unpublished portraits of Steele and his family.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL are about to publish a short work entitled 'Galileo and his Judges,' by Mr. F. R. Wegg Prosser. It is in reply to various criticisms on the case of Galileo.

MR. W. P. PHILLIMORE, editor of the "Index Library," proposes to publish a series of "Gloucester and Bristol Records." Mr. Phillimore will begin with the calendars of wills at Gloucester and Bristol, the marriage licences at Gloucester, and the 'Feet of Fines,' such as those printed by Mr. Walter Rye for Norfolk. Later on, the Gloucestershire *Inquisitiones post mortem*, the

Subsidy Rolls, the Episcopal Registers, and perhaps some of the principal parish registers in the county might be taken in hand. If two hundred subscribers will guarantee half a guinea each, Mr. Phillimore is prepared to an once undertake a quarterly series, to be styled the "Gloucester and Bristol Record Series," which shall give not fewer than two hundred pages annually in similar style to the "Index Library."

THE new edition of Mr. Wemyss Reid's 'Life of the Right Hon. W. E. Forster,' which Messrs. Chapman & Hall are going to issue, is in one volume, and will contain additional matter and a new portrait.

MR. J. M. BARRIE, the author of 'Auld Licht Idylls,' is engaged upon a life of the late Mr. Russel, of the *Scotsman*, the most influential journalist of his day in Scotland. Mr. Barrie would be obliged by the loan of letters, which should be sent to him, 7, Furnival's Inn, E.C., and any other aid.

MR. J. M. COWPER will have his fourth Canterbury register, viz., of St. Alphage, ready for the press in a few days. It will extend from A.D. 1558 to 1800.

MRS. OLIPHANT's new novel, 'Neighbours on the Green,' will be published immediately by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

THE 'English-Persian Dictionary,' upon which Mr. A. N. Wollaston, C.I.E., has been for many years engaged, is rapidly approaching completion, and will be published by Messrs. Allen & Co. in the course of the present year.

MR. DU MAURIER has just finished the illustrations for the *édition de luxe* of Mr. F. C. Phillips's 'As in a Looking-Glass,' which is to be issued in March by Messrs. Ward & Downey.

'THE WYVERN MYSTERY,' a novel written many years ago by the late Sheridan Le Fanu, and published in three volumes, will shortly be issued in a single volume, with illustrations by Mr. Brinsley Le Fanu, a son of the author of 'Uncle Silas.' It is the only one of Le Fanu's novels which has not been reprinted.

MR. EBSWORTH is at work on the preface and index to the sixth volume of the Roxburgh Ballads. The index is especially full.

At the general meeting of London and provincial newspaper proprietors held on Monday, Mr. Edward Lawson in the chair, the committee submitted a report regarding the new Act, and presented a statement of accounts, showing that it had a balance still in hand of over 46*l.* After the formal adoption of the committee's report, discussions took place upon the various subjects mentioned in the circular convening the meeting, and a resolution was passed "That this meeting, whilst of opinion that the new Act should receive a fair trial before further legislation is attempted, reaffirms the principles embodied in clauses 5 and 7 of the Libel Bill as introduced into Parliament by Sir Algernon Borthwick." It was also resolved to form a permanent association, and the Libel Law Reform Committee was re-appointed, with instructions to prepare a scheme for the formation of its Association. An adjourned meeting of the conference will be held at a future date to receive the report of the committee.

MESSRS. BELL & BRADFUTE, of Edinburgh, have arranged for the immediate publication of a handbook to the new Local Government Bill for Scotland, upon its becoming law, by Mr. William George Black. Mr. Black is author of 'Local Government in Scotland,' 'The Parochial Ecclesiastical Law of Scotland,' and other works, and has been for several years a member of the Parliamentary Bills Committee of the Commissioners of Supply for Lanarkshire. An article on the Law of Libel Amendment Act of 1888, by Mr. W. F. Finlason, editor of Reeves's 'History of English Law,' will appear in the new edition of the *Newspaper Press Directory*.

MISS FANNY FOWKE is to edit the enlarged edition of Miss F. Davenport Hill's 'Children of the State' which Messrs. Macmillan are going to publish.

MESSRS. FIELD & TIER write:—

"A correspondent in last week's *Athenæum*—who is certainly justified in asking for an explanation—wishes to know how it is that 'Kensington: Picturesque and Historical,' published by subscription at 28s. 6d., can now be had at a bookseller's for the same price, although the prospectus stated that the published price after the subscription list closed would be 45s. He further asks how the stores were able to take orders for this book at 27s., and how at least one bookseller is now selling copies at a trifle less than the subscribed price. The explanation is this. For the trouble of sending out prospectuses and booking orders we allowed booksellers and the stores a special (very small) commission from the subscribers' price of 28s. 6d. One of them, with a reputation for cheapness, took a shilling off, another followed with eighteenpence, and the mischief was done. Before the subscription list was closed some of the booksellers, including wholesale houses in the Row, speculatively subscribed for a certain number of copies, and it is these which are now being offered at 28s. 6d., and by cutting booksellers at even a slightly lower rate. So long as they remain undisposed of we are helpless; but the copies still in our hands being very few in number and the type distributed, 'Kensington' will eventually be raised by us to a much higher figure than the published price of 45s. The proof copies, over which there was no speculating, are now at a heavy premium. The terms of publication were the result of much deliberation, and it was only when too late that the one weak spot was discovered. Should we ever publish another book by subscription, a clause will be inserted in the prospectus to the effect that every order must be accompanied by name and address of subscriber, and that orders from booksellers for stock, except on the usual trade terms based on the full published price, will be declined."

THE *Sussex Express*, published at Lewes, has been purchased of the executors of the late Mr. W. E. Baxter by a limited company. The negotiations and valuations were arranged by Mr. W. Wellsman, of Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co.

THE philosophical writer Eduard von Hartmann will shortly issue a politico-historical work under the title of 'Zwei Jahrzehnte Deutscher Politik und die Gegenwärtige Weltlage.'

THE report on the examination for commercial certificates held by the University of Cambridge is not encouraging. Few of the candidates knew much of arithmetic or modern languages, their handwriting was often bad, and many of them could not express themselves in their own language passably. Of mechanics and

chemistry they mostly seem ignorant, they could not draw, and the examiner in geography seems to be almost the only one who appears to be able to report favourably. Out of forty-nine candidates but eight obtained certificates.

AN "investigation" into the administration of the Civil List pensions for the last fifty years has been completed for the committee of the Incorporated Society of Authors by Mr. W. Morris Colles. The list, giving the reasons for each grant and the amount, has been reprinted with some comments and suggestions, and will appear in a few days under the title 'Literature and the Pension List.'

MR. NIMMO is going to publish a photographic facsimile reprint of 'Immerito,' the original edition of Spenser's 'Shepherd's Calendar,' printed by Hugh Singleton, London, 1579. Dr. O. Sommer will edit it and contribute an introduction.

L'ABBÉ HENRY HYVERNAT, professor at the Papal University at Rome, and author of a splendid work on Coptic palaeography just published, has started for a literary tour in the East before settling at Washington, where he has been invited to take the Professorship of Biblical Archaeology in the Catholic University. It will, perhaps, be of interest to our readers to see the following extract from a letter written to one of our correspondents, dated Djesireh Ibn Omar, December 14th, 1888:—

"Nous voici, mon compagnon l'Abbé Muller et moi, à la fin de notre cinquième mois de voyage. Nous nous sommes rendus à Constantinople par Vienne. Après quinze jours de séjour dans la capitale du puissant empire ottoman, nous avons filé sur Tiflis par Batoum et Koutaïs. Nous avons parcouru tout le Caucase dans sa plus grande largeur de Vladi Caucase à Djoulfa. À ce dernier point nous avons franchi la frontière de Perse, avec l'intention de nous rendre à Talmas et à Ourmi, pour aller ensuite à Van par le Hakari et revenir plus tard en Perse afin de visiter Tauriz, Teheran, Hamedan et Kirmanchah, d'où nous devons nous diriger sur Bagdad. Il en a été autrement. À Van nous avons, malgré nos lettres viziellées, été pris pour des espions, qui disaient de la Russie, qui disaient du Pape, pour soulever les arméniens. Il en est résulté un retard de quatre semaines et demie, qui a été fatal au parfait accomplissement de ma mission. Car la neige est arrivée et nous a fermé l'accès de plus d'une inscription inconnue jusqu'alors. Je reviens néanmoins avec une dizaine de photographies d'inscriptions, pas mal d'observations topographiques et géologiques, quelques monnaies anciennes et plusieurs manuscrits, dont un MS. arménien des évangiles de premier ordre à cause des miniatures qu'il contient. Pour nous rendre à Djesireh Ibn Omar, d'où je vous écris, nous avons contourné la partie septentrionale du lac, par Ardjiche, Aklat et Tadwan, toujours dans la neige. Le Trojet de Bitlis ici a été des plus pénibles à cause des horribles montagnes qu'il faut franchir et de l'inclemence du temps. Mais, Dieu merci, nous sommes tous les deux aussi bien portants qu'au jour de notre départ. Nous nous rendons maintenant à Mossoul, Bagdad, Basra, Bombay, l'Égypte et la Palestine."

M. BOURGET's friends are a little astonished to find him writing in the *Vie Parisienne* on the lightest subjects in that which is politely called the lightest style—at any rate, general report attributes the articles to M. Bourget.

To the already large number of books on

Dickens will shortly be added a French work, entitled 'L'Inimitable Boz: Étude Historique et Anecdote sur la Vie et l'Œuvre de Charles Dickens,' by M. Robert du Pontavice de Housse. It will be illustrated with portraits and engravings.

THE venerable Bishop of Funen, Dr. Christian Thorning Engelstoft, who died in his palace at Odense on the 24th of January, in his eighty-fourth year, besides being a prominent Churchman, has enriched Danish literature by a variety of works, chiefly in ecclesiology. He published a history of the city of Odense in 1862, and he was the first editor of the leading Church review in Denmark, the *Theologisk Tidsskrift*, which he founded in 1837. He has been Bishop of Funen since 1852, with the exception of a short interruption in 1864, when for six months he accepted the portfolio of a cabinet minister during the war with Germany.

IN the January number of the German *Magazin für das Ausland* has appeared a translation by Mrs. Freiligrath Kroeker of Matthew Arnold's 'Heine's Grave.' This is the first attempt to render a poem of Mr. Arnold's into German.

THE Hebrew texts relating to the Ten Tribes in the Middle Ages to be found in MSS. and rare books, of which Dr. Neubauer makes use in his essay with the title of 'Where are the Ten Tribes?' (*Jewish Quarterly Review*) will appear in the original in the next "Sammelband" of the Mekitze Nirdamim (Society for Publication of Hebrew Texts) at Berlin.

MESSRS. KERR & RICHARDSON, of Glasgow, are going to bring out 'A Complete Concordance to the Poems and Songs of Robert Burns,' compiled and edited by Mr. J. B. Reid. The words of the 'Concordance' number over 8,000; the quotations over 40,000.

THE second volume of the 'Marriages at St. George's, Hanover Square,' 1788 to 1809, which Mr. J. H. Chapman has just finished editing for the Harleian Society, contains the marriage of the late Duke of Sussex with the daughter of the fourth Earl of Dunmore, which was afterwards declared null and void; and that of the twelfth Earl of Derby with Miss Farran, besides many other entries of note.

THE deaths are announced of M. R. Saint-Hilaire, of the Sorbonne, well known by his writings on Spanish history, and of Dr. W. Schott, the Berlin Orientalist.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Public Records, Forty-ninth Annual Report (3s. 3d.); Royal College of Surgeons, Supplemental Charter, Correspondence (10d.); and Consular Report on the Trade of St. Petersburg for 1887 (3d.).

SCIENCE

BOTANICAL LITERATURE.

The Flowering Plants of Wilts. By the Rev. T. A. Preston. With a Map. (Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society.)—This systematic list of the wild plants of Wiltshire is preceded by some details as to the topography, geology, and climate of the county, matters in the discussion of which Mr. Preston has had the assistance of Mr. Boulger, Mr. Sowerby, and

others. Broadly speaking, the county is a limestone district of moderate elevation, and its vegetation, therefore, is similar to that of other counties under like conditions, but less rich in special chalk plants, such as the orchids of the apifera section, than that of Kent, for instance, is. According to Mr. Preston, whose opinion on such matters is worthy of all respect, Marlborough is in summer nearly the warmest place in the island and absolutely the coldest place in the kingdom in winter. The plants themselves afford the best indications, however, and we are assured that the thermometric results are confirmed by the relatively late period in summer when the flowers begin to expand. This is a subject which has been followed up with much persistence and care by Mr. Preston during his residence in Marlborough, and consequently we find full details as to the date of first flowering and its duration—details much more trustworthy than those we usually meet with in similar works. In general terms Mr. Preston tells us that the difference between the earliest and the latest expansion of particular flowers, according to season, is about one month. We could have wished that the author had distinguished between annual plants and perennial plants, as the flowering period of the latter is probably quite as much, if not more affected by the climatal conditions of the previous summer and autumn than by those of the subsequent spring. The appendix contains a descriptive account of the water-buttercups, and a useful table by means of which these puzzling plants might readily be discriminated, if only the plants would but follow the indications laid down for them; but of this we fear there is little chance. Another note deals with the great rarity of the district, the tuberous-rooted thistle (*Carduus tuberosus*), which hitherto has not been found out of the county. There is some reason for supposing that this may be a natural hybrid between *C. acutis* and some other species, or perhaps it is only a specialized variety of the species last named. The plant should be carefully investigated, not only for scientific reasons, but also with an eye to the application of the plant for food purposes. It would be a grand thing to find out why a particular thistle takes on the habit of producing tubers when others growing by its side do not, and it would be a satisfactory proceeding to turn the despised thistles into succulent dainties! The book has suffered from the removal of its editor to a distant county before it was completed; but on the whole it has been well done, and contains a large amount of information interesting to others besides residents in Wiltshire.

A Flora of the North-East of Ireland. By S. A. Stewart and the late T. H. Corry. (Cambridge, Macmillan & Bowes.)—A tragic interest pertains to this little book. Mr. Corry, one of its compilers, was one of the most active and promising of the rising school of botanists, and did good service at Cambridge. To him botanists looked to enhance the value of the labours of the so-called "British" botanists by imparting to their work a leaven of significance and rational induction which at present it too often lacks. But this was not to be. Commissioned by the Royal Irish Academy to undertake some botanical researches in county Sligo, Corry, accompanied by a friend, repaired to Lough Gill, the centre of the richest botanical district in that part of Ireland. Good oarsmen and expert swimmers, the pair made light of the warnings tendered them, and, disregarding what they deemed to be unnecessary precautions, put off on the stormy surface of the lake, and were never afterwards seen alive. The work commenced by Corry has been taken up and brought to completion by Mr. Stewart. Those only who have to work over the same ground are in a position to form an opinion on the way in which the catalogue has been compiled. In our own herbarium is a specimen of the "minor" form of the common daffodil said to have been gathered in a wild state near Belfast; but not even the genus

finds mention in this work, possibly because the indigenous character of the plants is open to doubt. There are, however, several chapters in this volume which will be found of value to those interested in general botany. The introduction, giving a summary of the labours of Irish botanists from Heaton in 1650 down to David Moore and George Dickie (not to mention those still among us), is particularly noticeable from this point of view. Other chapters are devoted to the physical geography and climatology of the three counties of Antrim, Down, and Derry. There is here an extensive coast line, a very varied surface, the mountains attaining in places a height of not far short of 3,000 feet; there are rocky ravines, rivers, lakes, and bogs. Granites, basalts, red sandstones, lias, greensand, chalk, and boulder clay all have lent their influence in making the surface soil what it now is, and, as will be readily surmised, have afforded the requisite conditions for a varied and interesting flora, but one which has become so mixed that it presents few absolutely distinct elements. The vegetation, contrary to what might have been expected, is Welsh and English in character rather than Scottish, while, on the other hand, the Germanic or East Anglian type is poorly represented; and the Atlantic type, so marked a feature in the south-western counties, is hardly better illustrated. The book before us includes the mosses and liverworts as well as the flowering plants, and with its indices and numerous notes will be of value not merely to local naturalists, but to those interested in botanical geography. In a future edition a sketch-map would be a desirable adjunct.

The Native Flowers of New Zealand. By Mrs. Charles Hetley. (Sampson Low & Co.)—With the third part of this series of coloured illustrations Mrs. Hetley brings her task to a close. In spite of the fact that the artist has little or no botanical knowledge, she may be congratulated on the result. Her pictures are genuine portraits, so far as her opportunities permitted, and although errors of omission are naturally numerous, errors of commission are few. Truth of detail, indeed, has not been aimed at, as the work is not intended for botanists. Recognizing this, we can nevertheless only express our regret that so much talent and labour have been expended to so little purpose—for of what use is a drawing-room table book? and how long do its attractions last? To illustrate our meaning, let us turn to plate 34, representing the beautiful *Plagianthus lyallii*. We cannot say that the drawing is incorrect, but from the manner in which the details of the flower are slurred over or altogether omitted, the illustration might almost as well pass for one of the double-flowered cherry, and does not afford any indication to enable the reader to guess even at the natural order to which the plant belongs. Moreover there is not a word in the text to help out the deficiencies of the plate. It is true that by way of appendix three plates are given of floral analyses, mostly copied from Hooker's 'Flora of New Zealand,' but so insufficient and so roughly executed, and with so evident a lack of knowledge on the part of the copier, that they are of little use to botanists and, of course, less to amateurs. The preface contains a graphic account of the author's wanderings in search of materials, an account which shows that she did not lack zeal nor courage. Her intentions are so good and her artistic talent so obvious that we hope to see more work from her brush, and trust that on another occasion she will work in co-operation with a botanist, and thus enhance the value of her labour.

'OUR RARER BIRDS.'

8, New Burlington Street, Jan. 29, 1889.

WE beg to state that we have already, in response to your challenge, given our authority for the use of the plate of the St. Kilda wren in 'Our Rarer Birds.'

The erasure of the words at the head of the plate was intentional, and hardly needs explanation. It was necessary as a matter of accuracy, as the sketch was not on this occasion appearing in the *Ibis*, was not being issued in "1885," and was not to be placed by the binder as "Pl. iii." Seven pages further on specific reference is made to the loan of the drawing in question, and it must, therefore, be obvious to any fair-minded person that there was no intention of concealing "the indications of its origin."

We have no knowledge of the affairs of the Ornithologists' Union or of the publication office of the *Ibis*; but we are, we confess, disposed to attach more weight to the official statement* of one of the principal scientific societies of London than to the charges made by an anonymous writer in your columns.

RICHARD BENTLEY & SON.

* * Our challenge was to Messrs. Bentley & Son's assertion that they had stated the origin of the plate; the authority for its use is another matter. If by the words "official statement of one of the principal scientific societies of London" they mean—and we can imagine nothing else—that an official statement respecting a plate in the *Ibis* emanated from the Zoological Society, we reply that this seems almost incredible.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

HEER OTTO EHLERS, of Cologne, is reported to have reached within a short distance of the summit of Kilimanjaro, by starting from the northern base of the mountain. He will join the Emin Pasha relief expedition which is to leave Berlin in the course of February under the leadership of Dr. Carl Peters.

Dr. Hans Meyer is actually preparing for a third expedition into Central Africa, notwithstanding the serious hardships and pecuniary losses which his last trip cost him. We may state here that the ransom exacted at Pangani by Bushiri was paid down on the spot by a Banyan trader, who cashed Dr. Meyer's bill at a discount of 25 per cent. Dr. Meyer now proposes to make another attempt upon Kilimanjaro, to visit Mount Kenia, and to return to the east coast by way of the Tana.

Petermann's *Mitteilungen* for January contains an article on the cretaceous region around the pyramids of Gizeh, by Dr. Schweinfurth (with a map); the first part of a carefully written analysis of Prejevalsky's fourth and last expedition into Central Asia, by Dr. C. Diener; and an essay on the formation of so-called *Durchgangstüler*, i.e., of valleys which traverse mountain ranges, by Dr. Heilber. The author of the last paper passes in review nine theories advanced by geologists to account for the existence of such valleys as, for instance, those which, taking their rise on the Tibetan plateau, traverse the chain of the Himalaya, and debouch upon the plain of Hindustan. He finally declares in favour of their formation by "regressive" erosion. Among the "Kleinere Mitteilungen" we notice some critical remarks on Dr. J. Murray's computation of the mean level of the land, by Prof. A. Penck; and an amended edition of Mr. A. Waldos's map of the velocity of the wind in North America.

Cora's *Cosmos* publishes analyses of Von der Steinen's report on an exploration of the Xingu river, and of Lieut. Younghusband's remarkable journey across Central Asia. Signor Cora in a short article objects to the name of Godwin-Austen being applied to the Peak K2 in the Western Himalaya, as it was discovered by the late Col. Th. G. Montgomerie, and has already become known by its supposed native name of Dapsang. He suggests that Godwin-Austen's name might be bestowed upon one of the many unnamed peaks in the Himalayas.

* It may be, perhaps, mentioned here also that the same authority was accepted without question by the custodians of the stone as by ourselves.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Jan. 24.—The President in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On the Influence of Carbonic Anhydride and other Gases on the Development of Micro-organisms,' by Prof. P. F. Frankland, and 'The Spinal Curvature in an Aboriginal Australian,' by Dr. D. J. Cunningham.

GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 23.—Dr. W. T. Blanford, V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. A. G. Maitland, J. Millie, J. A. Osborn, J. Parkinson, and C. H. Trinks were elected Fellows; the Marquis Gaston de Saporta, Aix-en-Provence, a Foreign Member; and Dr. H. Reusch, Christiania, a Foreign Correspondent of the Society.—The following communications were read: 'On the Prevailing Misconceptions regarding the Evidence which we ought to expect of former Glacial Periods,' by Dr. J. Croll, communicated by Prof. T. G. Bonney, 'On Remains of Eocene and Mesozoic Chelonia, and on a Tooth of (?) Ornithopsis,' by Mr. R. Lydekker, and 'On the Dentition of *Lepidotus maximus*, Wagn., as indicated by Specimens from the Kimeridge Clay of Shotover Hill, near Oxford,' by Messrs. R. Etheridge and H. Willett.

ASIATIC.—Jan. 21.—Sir W. W. Hunter in the chair.—Mr. L. C. Hopkins, of the China consular service, was elected a Non-Resident Member.—The Secretary read an abstract of a paper by Prof. de Lacouperie on the Djurthechen of Manchuria. This interesting people occupied an important position in Central Asia during the Middle Ages. Their rulers, under the name of the Kin or "Golden Dynasty," reigned over the northern half of China, and it was only the all-powerful Mongols who were able to oust them. But very little is known either of their language or of their literature, and even the correct spelling and pronunciation of their name have been open to doubt. All that we know of them has been derived from Chinese sources, and the Chinese writing being uncertain in its reproduction of foreign words, European writers have spelt their name in very different ways. By a comparison of all the forms of it given by Chinese authors the writer concludes that the name of the people, as used by themselves, must have been Djurthechen. Remains of their language have been discovered in the vocabularies drawn up for the use of the Interpreters' College in Peking, which were probably studied there as late as 1658. There is a copy of these vocabularies preserved in the Bibliothèque Nationale, and Dr. Hirth, of the German consular service, has lately discovered another. The Djurthechen had two forms of writing, a larger and a smaller. The former has been found used on the celebrated bilingual inscription of Lang Kinn Salikan, erected in 1134, and several times published in Europe. The smaller writing has been supposed to be one of the six used in another celebrated inscription, that of Kin-yung-Kwan, but is not really so. A sketch of the known history of the Djurthechen concluded the paper, and in the course of this it was shown that they were descended from the same stock as, but were not the direct ancestors of, the Manchus, and that it was almost certainly the Djurthechen dynasty who originated the wearing of the pigtail, generally introduced into China as a national fashion since 1627.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Jan. 24.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Chancellor Ferguson exhibited and presented a photograph of a "culver-hole" in Glamorganshire, which was engraved and described in an early volume of the *Archæologia* as a "pirate's domicile." It was really, however, as its name shows, simply a large pigeon-house.—Rev. J. T. Fowler exhibited a rubbing and drawing of a remarkable Norman cross at Kelloe, Durham, with scenes from the life of St. Helen, to whom Kelloe Church is dedicated, and small sockets for relics.—Miss M. Stokes exhibited a copy of an illuminated picture in a MS. at Trinity College, Dublin, representing what she considered to be the Blessed Virgin teaching the Infant Christ to walk.—Chancellor Ferguson exhibited, and communicated a descriptive account of, a fine example of an astrolabe planisphere of English make, circa 1390-1400.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Jan. 16.—Rev. S. M. Mayhew in the chair.—A notice of the discovery of the ruins of the ancient Basilican Church of St. Valentine at Rome, demolished in the fifteenth century, was rendered by Mr. Loftus Brock. The site was met with after the excavation of an ancient cemetery, which was found to adjoin the church.—Mr. E. Way exhibited two almost perfect pilgrims' bottles, found in Tabard Street, Southwark, in some recent excavations, one being of green glazed ware, the other red. Their connexion with the Canterbury pilgrims, owing to the position where they were discovered appears fairly evident.

—Some examples of forged antiques, well known as "Billy and Charley" castings, were exhibited as a warning to unwary collectors, and it was suggested that a collection of these articles should be made and published, with a view to the protection of the public in years to come.—The Chairman exhibited a fine incense boat of latton, once gilt, found near Rochester. It is of Italian work early in the fifteenth century.—A paper was read by the Chairman on North Caithness and Orkney, in which the results of an extended visit were detailed, and many curious facts relating to the early history of the almost treeless district were reported.—A short paper was read by Canon Collier on certain inscribed stones in South Wales near Haverfordwest.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Jan. 9.—Dr. C. T. Hudson, President, in the chair.—Mr. H. Epps exhibited an old microscope by Edmund Culpeper.—Mr. T. F. Smith called attention to his further researches on the structure of *Pleurosigma formosum*. He found not more than three layers, the first consisting of a grating with square meshes, the second had them of diagonal pattern, and the third was composed of alternate rings and squares. He also described *P. angulatum* as giving the appearance of a fine grating showing an image in each alternate square.—Mr. Crisp exhibited a form of spirit-lamp sent from America, the reservoir of which was faceted instead of globular, so that it could not be upset, and might be used in various positions; also Mawson and Swan's camera arrangement for fixing on the front of an ordinary camera; also the binocular arrangement of Messrs. Bausch and Lomb, which, although described in the *Journal* in 1884, had not until the present time been seen in this country; also another arrangement for rotating a number of objects so as to bring them in succession under the objective of a microscope.—Mr. A. D. Michael gave an interesting résumé of his paper 'On the Internal Anatomy of *Uropoda krameri*.' He finds that although the anatomy is essentially of the Gamasid type, yet that the external resemblance of *Uropoda* to the Oribatida which deceived Hermann is accompanied by many internal similarities, while many organs differ considerably from those of *Uropoda obscura* lately described by Winkler. He describes a curious organ which he calls the "vestibule," forming the outer chamber of the female genital system, and which it is suggested may serve to remove the thin egg-shell at the moment of deposition, producing ovo-viviparous reproduction. The female genital organs form a ring with two oviducts, the trachea are unbranched; the alimentary canal, excretory system, and male genital system of the œsophageal ganglion are also described.—Dr. F. H. Bowman's paper 'On the Frustule of *Surirella gemma*,' and Count Abbé F. Castracane's paper 'On the Reproduction and Multiplication of Diatoms,' were taken as read.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Jan. 29.—Sir G. B. Bruce, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'On the Trincheras Steep Incline on the Puerto Cabello and Valencia Railway, Venezuela,' by Mr. J. Carruthers, 'On the Cost of Working the Hartz Mountain Railway,' by Mr. R. Wilson, and 'On Further Information on the Working of the Fell System of Traction on the Rimutaka Incline, New Zealand,' by Mr. J. P. Maxwell.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Jan. 25.—Sir F. Goldsmid in the chair.—A paper 'On the Asiatic Colonization of East Africa' was read before the Indian Section of the Society by Mr. H. H. Johnston.—The paper was followed by a discussion.

Jan. 28.—General Donnelly in the chair.—Mr. A. S. Cole gave the second and concluding lecture of his course of Cantor Lectures 'On Egyptian Tapestry and Textiles.' The lecture was fully illustrated by specimens and by photographic transparencies.

Jan. 29.—Sir O. T. Burne in the chair.—A paper 'On Gold and Silver Mining in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado' was read before the Foreign and Colonial Section by Mr. T. W. Goad. A collection of garments, weapons, &c., of the native Indian tribes of Colorado was shown in illustration of the paper, and was supplemented by a series of photographs and lantern slides.

Jan. 30.—Mr. W. T. Taylor in the chair.—A paper 'On the Construction of Photographic Lenses' was read by Mr. C. Beck, and was followed by a discussion.

ARISTOTELIAN.—Jan. 28.—Mr. B. Bosanquet, V.P., in the chair.—Prof. Bain read a paper 'On the Empiricist Position.' Empiricism has been usually defined by experience, and is opposed to intuition. The contrast is made more precise by saying that while intuition may be admitted as suggestive, it has no validity without the confirmation of experience. Yet this does not cover all the points. There

are problems where validity does not enter, the question being how to express, without contradiction, what we all admit as true. Even as regards intuitive suggestion there are still differences of view. As regards innate ideas, the empiricist position is that our knowledge is wholly obtained from sensation, with the co-operation of our intellectual powers, heredity being also allowed for. To uphold this position requires us to give an account of our notions of space, time, cause, the soul or ego, without presupposing pure intuition. The relative priority of the universal and particular is empirically settled by maintaining that the two must proceed together. When from innate ideas we pass to innate truths, validity comes in. The testimony of consciousness has here to be appraised at its true worth. No single revelation of consciousness is admitted as final; there must be comparison to overcome illusions. Hence the final criterion of validity in general is consistency, or the absence of contradiction, through a sufficient range of conscious experiences. The question of cause is best approached under the form of uniformity of nature. Does the empiric hold that experience establishes the certainty that the future will resemble the past? Hobbes says "No," and the modern advocate of empiricism agrees with him. Lewes and some others regard it as an identical proposition. Whether this be so or not, the intuitionist view can be shown to beg the question twice over. Experience teaches what has been in the past, but cannot avouch the future. That must be presumed, begged, or taken for granted by everybody; there is no proof, but the absence of contradiction, in the past. Another question connected with cause is whether we are to rest satisfied with mere physical sequence, or must postulate mind at every step. The principle of uniformity ranges wider than causation; it includes laws of co-existence, of which gravity is the chief, and laws of equality, or mathematics. It is impossible to exclude these from the experience test. The problem of external perception has a unique character among the controversies that divide the empiricists and the apriorists. The idealist view is what empiricism must adopt. It is a case of uncontradicted uniformity in the recurrence of certain appearances; and we are entitled, but only as an assumption, to postulate the same recurrence in the distant and in the future. The point is how to express the appearances while they are unperceived. It is a marked contradiction to give them characters in themselves without any reference to their being perceived. If we must express what is permanent in other terms than as it appears to our perceptions, we can do so only in the most abstract language. The whole attempt is an accommodation to human weakness, which desiderates an assurance beyond the fact of regular recurrence. Most transcendent of all the questions is what is expressed by thought and reality, with their numerous synonyms. When reduced to a distinct issue, this is found to imply that what we know has some co-relations in the unknown, expressible only in terms of the co-relation. The most typical case is design, as implying a designer. It is through this procedure that philosophy has relations with theism, which, however, cannot be exhausted by such approaches. The empiricist, like everybody else, would be bound to take the subject in all its bearings.

PHYSICAL.—Jan. 26.—Prof. Fuller in the chair.—Dr. S. P. Thompson read three notes on polarized light, entitled respectively 'The Structure of Natural Diffraction Gratings of Quartz,' 'Ahrens's Modification of Delezenne's Polarizer,' and 'The Use of Two Quarter Wave Plates in Combination with a Stationary Polarizer.'—Prof. Herroun read selections from a paper 'On the Divergence of Electromotive Forces from Thermo-chemical Data.'

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Royal Institution, 5.—General Monthly.
- London Institution, 5.—Cadmon, our First Poet in the Island of England, Rev. Sturford Brooke.
- Society of Engineers, 7.—President's Inaugural Address.
- Victoria Institute, 8.—The Factors of Evolution in Language, Mr. J. J. Murphy; Intelligence among the Aborigines of Australia, Dr. Frazer.
- Royal Academy, 8.—Architecture, Mr. G. Atchison.
- Royal Institution, 8.—Before and After Darwin, Prof. G. J. Romanes.
- Society of Biblical Archaeology, 8.—Roumanian and other little known Versions of the Apocrypha of Jeremiah, Dr. Gaster.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—Ballot for Members; Discussion on the Papers on Steep Inclines on Railways, by Messrs. Carruthers, Wilson, and Maxwell.
- Society of Arts, 8.—Manufacture of Sévres Porcelain, M. E. Garnier.
- Zoological, 8.—Species of Batrachians of the Genus *Rhacophorus* confounded under the Name of *R. maculatus*, Mr. G. A. Boulenger; Characters of some New Species of Birds of the Family Dendrocapitidae, Mr. P. L. Selater; New Species and a New Genus of Araneidae, Rev. O. P. Cambridge.
- Entomological, 7.—Early History of Bangor Monachorum, with an Account of the District, east of Offa's Dyke, reconquered by the Northern Welsh in the Eleventh Century, Mr. A. N. Palmer.
- Geological, 8.—Occurrence of Palaeolithic Flint Implements in the Neighbourhood of Ighiteham, Kent, their Distribution and Probable Age, Dr. J. Prestwich; The Cotteswold, Miford, and Yeovil Sands, and the Division between Lias and Oolite, Mr. S. S. Buckman.

- WED. Society of Arts, 8.—'The Status of the County Council,' Mr. G. L. Gomme.
- Shortland, 8.—'Modern Transcribing Machines,' Miss M. P. Ellis.
- British Archaeological Association, 8.—'The Original Records of the Erection of the Steeple to St. Antholin's Church, London,' by Sir Christopher Wren, Major H. A. Joseph.
- THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Metamorphoses of Minerals,' Prof. J. W. Judd.
- Archaeological Institute, 4.—'Unusual Features in Old Churches,' Mr. T. Turner; 'Banbury Cross,' Mr. W. Lovell.
- Royal 45.
- London Institution, 5.—'Men, Women, and Artists,' Mr. H. Quilter.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Architecture,' Mr. G. Atchison.
- Linnean, 8.—'Revelation of the Echinoides,' Prof. F. M. Duncan; 'New British Parasitic Acari,' Mr. A. D. Michael.
- Chemical, 8.—'Researches on the Constitution of Azo- and Diazo-Compounds,' Part V. Compounds of the Naphthalene, β Series, Messrs. R. Meldola and G. T. Morgan; 'Note on Methyl Fluoride,' Mr. N. Collie.
- Antiquaries, 8.—'Discovery of Grave-Covers at Bromfield, Cumberland,' Chancellor Ferguson; 'Brass of an Archbishop on the Tower of Edenham Church, Lincolnshire,' Rev. C. R. Manning; 'Roger of Salisbury, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1244-47,' Canon Church.
- FRI. United Service Institution, 3.—'The Value of Artillery in the Field,' Major-General C. H. Owen.
- Civil Engineers, 7.—'Flexible Wheel-bases of Railway Rolling Stock,' Mr. J. D. Twinn (Students' Meeting).
- New Shakespeare, 8.—'Shakespeare's Development in Comedy,' Part II, Miss G. Latham.
- Astronomical, 8.—Anniversary.
- Royal Institution, 9.—'Electrostatic Measurement,' Sir W. Thomson.
- SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Great Composers and their Works,' Prof. E. Fauer.
- Physical, 3.—Annual Meeting; 'Physico-Geometrical Models,' Prof. A. S. Herschel.
- Botanic, 3.—Election of Fellows.

Science Gossip.

MR. FRANCIS GALTON's new book on 'Natural Inheritance' will be published immediately by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. It is well known that Mr. Galton has long been engaged upon certain problems that lie at the base of the science of heredity. This volume contains the more important results, set forth in an orderly way, with more completeness than has hitherto been possible, together with a large amount of new matter.

THE centenary of the birth of George Simon Ohm, which takes place on the 16th of next March, is to be celebrated by the erection of a statue of him in Munich, the capital of his native state. To Ohm is due the discovery of two of the most fruitful principles in mathematical physics—the law of the relation between the strength of an electric current and the electro-motive force acting in the conductor, and the law as to the way in which complex musical sounds are perceived by the ear. A committee is being formed in this country to co-operate with the German committee in promoting the intended memorial.

THE medals and funds to be given at the anniversary meeting of the Geological Society on February 15th have been awarded by the Council as follows:—The Wollaston Medal to Prof. T. G. Bonney, D.Sc., F.R.S.; the Murchison Medal to Prof. James Geikie, F.R.S.; the Lyell Medal to Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S.; and the Bigsby Medal to Mr. J. J. Harris Teall; the balance of the Wollaston Fund to Mr. A. Smith Woodward, of the British Museum; that of the Murchison Fund to Mr. Grenville A. J. Cole, of the Science Schools, South Kensington; and that of the Lyell Fund to M. L. Dollo, of the Royal Museum at Brussels.

THE mathematical prize founded by the King of Sweden in commemoration of his sixtieth birthday (January 21st) has been carried off by M. Poincaré, of the Académie des Sciences; and a gold medal awarded to another French mathematician.

MR. C. STANILAND WAKE is going to issue a book on 'The Development of Marriage and Kinship.' Mr. George Redway is the publisher.

MR. G. T. BETTANY, author of 'Eminent Doctors,' is proposing to publish by subscription a fuller biography than exists of Thomas Guy, the famous bookseller of Lombard Street, combined with a history of Guy's Hospital, and biographical accounts of its deceased medical officers and lecturers. The names of Sir Astley Cooper, of Bright, Addison, Key, Hilton, Swaine Taylor, and Hinton, are among the more eminent of these, and the work should, therefore, prove very interesting. Mr. Bettany's book, we understand, will be based upon a considerable amount of research and original information. The

treasurer of Guy's Hospital has given permission to Mr. Bettany to inspect the hospital records; and Dr. Wilks, Dr. Steele, Mr. William Rendle (author of 'Old Southwark and its People'), and other gentlemen have promised to give the author the benefit of their valuable collections and stores of information. An octavo volume of about five hundred pages, with illustrations, is contemplated, at a subscription price of half a guinea. Subscribers' names may be sent to Mr. Bettany, at 33, Oakhurst Grove, Dulwich.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES WILL CLOSE on SATURDAY, February 10th.—5, Pall Mall East, from 10 till 5.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

ROYAL HOUSE OF STUART.—EXHIBITION OF PORTRAITS, MINIATURES, AND PERSONAL RELICS connected with the ROYAL HOUSE OF STUART. Under the Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen. OPEN DAILY from 10 A.M. to 7 P.M.—Admission, 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s. New Gallery, Regent Street.

'THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORÉ'S LAST GREAT PICTURE,' completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 35, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Pteridium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pléiade's Wife,' and his other great pictures. From 10 to 6 daily.—Admission, 1s.

THE STUART EXHIBITION, NEW GALLERY.

(Second Notice.)

HAVING already given a general notice of the leading pictures in this exhibition, we propose to make a few additional remarks; suggested by further acquaintance with the exhibition. There is something like pedantry in hanging what the Catalogue calls "a sequence of imaginary portraits of the kings of the house of Stuart, traditionally regarded as having been painted by G. Jamesone for Charles I." These daubs are neither true portraits nor are they productions of Jamesone, whose workmanlike and sincere, if rather dull and apathetic style is alleged to be recognizable in the interesting and highly characteristic whole-length figure of the "gude, godlie, and learned king," James I. (No. 62). The whole-length Charles I. (79) is also ascribed to Jamesone, although its style is quite different. No. 62 reflects the style of Rubens in a crude manner; the other portrait that of Van Dyck, but in a weak fashion. It is a pity Lord Breadalbane's portraits, now at Taymouth Castle, of Queen Annabella (born Drummond), David II., and the so-called "Maria Magne," all three fine Jamesones, were not available instead of the present sequence.

The likeness of James IV. (9), a most attractive picture, is not quite incredible, because it resembles the bad, but probably veracious No. 11, with the falcon on the king's fist. It is to be remembered that King Charles I. had a copy, by Mytens, of 'King James IV. of Scotland, with a falcon on his fist, done after an ancient water-coloured piece, half a figure, so big as the life, in a carved frame.' That No. 9 is a Holbein is on internal evidence doubtful, nor do the dates confirm the idea that it represents James IV. If it be a portrait of James, inasmuch as it represents a man of twenty-five years old at the utmost, it cannot have been painted after 1497, and therefore cannot be by Holbein, who was born in 1495. The supposed allusion of the daisy held in the right hand to the name of James's wife (see No. 10) is more than questionable evidence of its being a likeness of that king, who was not married to Margaret Tudor till 1503. The eyes of No. 9 are dark grey, those of No. 11 are decidedly hazel. The picture is doubtless neither a Holbein nor a portrait of James IV. Some one's sympathetic imagination has probably caught at the daisy. In style it is doubtless German; the taste displayed in it, technical motives, and other points about it would justify its ascription to Amberger rather than to Holbein. Of its original surface very little is visible; that which we see has been worked over by a modern hand, traces of which were, we think, much less obvious

when it was No. 63 at the National Portrait Exhibition in 1866. These additions, or repairs, differ in toto from Holbein's technique; that they are comparatively recent is discovered on examining the left upper eyelid, the nostrils and bridge of the nose, the flesh shadows, and the hands throughout. The tender and very pathetic expression of the features is quite modern, and out of keeping with Holbein's mood.

We are willing to accept *Margaret Tudor* (10) as a veritable likeness and a Holbein, although, as she was born in 1489, it cannot have been painted before 1516, when she was twenty-seven and Holbein twenty-one (i. e., long before he had anything to do with England), nor later than 1522, when her face suffered much from small-pox. It was No. 90 at the National Portrait Exhibition, and, although well known, is not named in the trustworthy lists of Holbeins. There were men in England besides Holbein, at the period indicated by the portrait, who were able to paint as finely as this. The picture has no likeness to French art of the time. The execution is firm and delicate, the finish is exquisite, and the flesh brilliant. The costume is much more English or German than French. The coif is set with lines of pearls and gold, and a black hood hangs down behind. This and the brocade of the lady's red dress, her jewellery, even the black stone in one of her rings cut into the shape of a little pyramid and set in a circle of gold, and the curious black embroidery (known as English work) on her white sleeves are all of Mary's time and Holbein's. It is impossible to admire too much the lovely drawing of the eyelids; and the charm imparted by the amorous glance, at once ardent and languishing, is true to Margaret's character. The lips are firmly handled; they are slightly compressed, and the corners are gently lifted, telling of a joyous nature slightly restrained in its expression by a sense of dignity and habitual reserve. The pencilling of the eyebrows is exquisite, so is the fineness of the lines of the hair following the contours of the forehead, which is full, round, and massive. Equally exquisite is the skill displayed in delineating the perspective of the pearls and richly chased golden beads sewn on the edge of the white cap. Nothing is omitted that can give refinement to the portrait, from the way in which the black, thread-like necklace, holding some locket or lover's gift, crosses the ample shoulders, to the design of the hands, a matter to which Holbein often gave great heed. The fingers are perfectly drawn, although their position makes them most difficult of delineation. They hold a pomander of dark blue Limoges enamel and gold. Not the least admirable portion of the picture is the headdress. Close to the head is an inner cap of muslin-like white tissue, edged with lace, while the body of the cap is goffered in fine plaits, through which the dark hair is visible. Then comes the close-fitting white cap proper, with its wire-stiffened edge adapted to the horseshoe form and decorated with the jewels mentioned above. Over this is the black hood, the strong wire in the edge of which has been turned back so that the inner surface of the head-tire is shown, while the body of the hood hangs down behind the shoulders.

This picture is very unlike the Italian work shown in No. 15, *James V.*, and No. 16, *James V. and his Queen, and Second Wife, Mary of Guise*, and this fact seems to militate against the notion that to Clouet II. (Jean Clouet, or "Janet," died 1541), to whom some conjectures have awarded it, the picture is due. That happy mixture of something which was Flemish in its realism with a certain timidity that characterized French painting at the beginning of the sixteenth century is not observable here. On the contrary, a more advanced style prevails, with German firmness and a searching execution that has plenty of spirit about it, so that the picture reminds us of Holbein (1495-1543) or Amberger (1490-1568). Of course, the Queen of Scotland and Princess Royal of England might have sat to Clouet II. in Paris

or at Tours. She was at her brother's court after 1514, and probably crossed the Channel within the period of Clouet II. Clouet III. (also, for the confusion of mankind, called "Janet"), or François Clouet, could hardly have been advanced enough to paint Queen Margaret while so much of youth remained in her features as is to be found in this portrait, if it be her portrait. It has none of the "miniature style" of Jean Perréal. Failing these, we must fall back upon Stretes and Hornebolt, either of whom might have produced it.

It is worth while to compare the face of James VI. (13) in his twenty-fourth year with the same monarch when he had become James I. (62), and looked much older than we should expect, in the whole-length, life-size portrait, which we have already mentioned, on the opposite side of the room. As King James died in 1625, when Jamesone had made no considerable mark even in Aberdeen, it is difficult to accept him as the painter of this curious picture, which, as we have said, shows the influence of Rubens. It is an unquestionable James I.; but Jamesone's share in it is hard to get at. The animated expression of No. 13, if it is a genuine old picture, proves how unjust is the opinion that portraiture of that time was dry and stiff. It shows that James's hair was still light brown when he was twenty-five years old. The red hat of the "newest block," with the band of jewels (often mentioned by Scott and others) about it, attracts us. The features (observe the nose, which always changes least in every face) are possibly James's; but the technique seems of a later period than 1591, and due to a hand possessing more firmness and sweeping precision of touch than we can ascribe to artists in Britain at that time. We conclude that it is a copy of an older portrait—perhaps, like others here, enlarged from a miniature of the date it bears, or nearly so. At the same time we confess to grave doubts whether the whole be not a forgery.

The capital Henry, Earl of Darnley (20), is undoubtedly genuine. The details of the costume are highly interesting. Of course it was painted in England, c. 1555, and illustrates the growth of Italian influences on art in this country, which were then supplanting Holbein and the "Gothic" men who worked for Henry VIII. and his two immediate successors. It seems really to be Darnley ten years before Mary, Queen of Scots, fell so violently in love with the foolish youth, who was nearly five years her junior, that Randolph could report to Leicester of her doings, as the Catalogue before us remarks, that she "has given over unto him her whole will." We wonder why the promoters of this exhibition, who have not flinched from giving the factitious titles of the later Stuarts, have not styled the original of No. 21 "Henry I. of Scotland." Darnley was legally king. No. 22, another Darnley, is obviously a reduced copy, with variations such as it was customary to make, of No. 20, and has been daubed over by an unskilful hand.

No visitor to this gallery can fail to admire the judicious care and learning of Mr. Scharf, under whose advice the instructive gathering of Mary's portraits has been formed. One very precious result of this exhibition is the decisive answer it gives to a question which has vexed historians, lovers of romance, and artists nearly equally. Thanks to Mr. Scharf, there cannot be a doubt that Mary is before us here, with as much vivacity as the art of the west of Europe could in her time bestow. No. 24 is a capital likeness, which in technique resembles its pendant, No. 13 (which was probably painted "to match" it), and, except a few touches here and there, is genuine if not coeval with Mary before her troubles set in. It gives by far the most lively idea of her charms before her passion for Darnley was kindled, i. e., between August, 1561, and say three years later. Her spirit seems unbroken; her eyes, of dark chestnut tints, are brilliant and unshaken,

and the thin, rosy lips are those of Mary at her fairest. The contours of the cheeks are unchanged; the firm lines of the large and bold nose retain their clearness, and have not swollen, as they did in later years (see No. 36 by P. Oudry). These fine contours she did not get from the Medicis, nor did they come from the bolder Tudors. They appear to be due to the higher type of James V., see No. 16. That slyness which is a constant element in her portraits, without which none is to be taken as authentic, lurks in the glance that darts from below the almost level upper eyelids, and suggests that veritable *anguis in herba* of which her contemporaries often spoke. Many looking at the true portraits have affirmed that she had a slight cast in her eye, or eyes, giving a *piquante* look which had a kind of charm. If we could but restore the complexion—it is not much faded—revive its slight original rosininess, and clear the little injured surface of the picture, we should doubtless see Mary in her prime, and all the charms of youth and womanhood would be manifest in this valuable work. Many of these charms are still concealed under the soiled surface of the panel of more than three hundred years ago. The chin before us is a little weak, and the elaborate coquetry of the French cap and ruff savours more of the bride in her prime than of the dignity of the queen. No. 25, *Mary, Queen of Scots*, which comes from Osborne, may, in its pristine state, have been rightly called a true portrait of the fair Queen of France; at best it seems to be now a compilation with a new surface. With so many fine things to look at it need not detain us. We shall soon return to the subject, and, aided by the judicious selection of examples Mr. Scharf has made, have not the least doubt of being able to set Mary to the life before our readers.

HANS MEMLING.

It is just twenty-eight years since the first trustworthy documents relating to Hans Memling were discovered in the archives of Bruges by Mr. Weale, and now fresh contemporary evidence has come to light, which settles the place of his birth and the exact date of his death. At the end of the fifteenth century there lived in Bruges a priest of the name of Rombold de Doppere, who was also a notary, and, as it appears, a lover of art. He kept a diary which fell into the hands of the Flemish annalist Philip Meyer, who drew largely from it. The following entry relating to the great master occurs among the events recorded in the year 1494: "Die xi Augusti Brugis obiit magister Joannes Memmelinc, quem predicabant peritissimum fuisse et excellentissimum pictorem totius tunc orbis Christiani. Oriundus erat Mogunciaci, sepultus Brugis ad Ægidii."

This precious document confirms Mr. Weale's contention, which the *Athenæum* has accepted from the first, that the final letter of the master's name was *c*, not *g*, that his early years were spent on the borders of the Rhine, and that he was probably buried in the church of St. Giles. Perhaps a search in the archives of Mayence may bring to light further information as to his parents and the date of his birth. Some writers have supposed that the family derived their name from the village of Mümling, between Aschaffenburg and Erbach; but Mr. Weale has shown that the town of Memmelinck, now Medemblick, in the north-east of Holland has a much better claim to this honour. In 1426 a great number of the inhabitants of Memmelinck were driven out of the town when it was taken by the Kennemaren. Many of them settled in the duchy of Gelder, and it was owing to the fact that the guardian of Memling's children (guardians of orphans in Flanders were always chosen from among the next-of-kin) was a native of Deuticheim, in that duchy, that Mr. Weale looked upon Memling as having been born there. But apparently the family wandered further afield. It was for another native of

Gelderland, the miniaturist and illuminator William Vrelaut, who lived a few doors off from Memling, that he painted the beautiful picture of the scenes of the Passion, long in the abbey church of St. Bartholomew at Bruges, and now in the gallery at Turin.

NEW PRINTS.

THE large (too large) etching by Mr. C. E. Holloway of which we have from Mr. Lucas a proof with the *remarque*, a dated shield and laurel, called 'The Victory at Rest,' has many excellent points. The etching is much above the average of those dealing with maritime subjects, which are popular on account of their subjects. In fact it is one of the best and most sincere we have seen, and lacks nothing but a little more refinement to be better still. Our praise is comparative, for, to state the whole truth, the Victorias, Téméraires, and their like are not very enjoyable, unless when men like Turner and Rajon take them up. Except the 'Old Téméraire,' as etched by Rajon from Turner's picture in the National Gallery, we know no really first-rate work of this class, and only a few that are respectable. The subject does not seem to suit etching in any but masterly and refined hands.

Messrs. Frost & Reed send us two large proofs on Japanese paper of etchings by Mr. C. Bird, 'Blackadder Crypt' and 'Lauder's Crypt,' both in Glasgow Cathedral, and effective if somewhat rough and heavy. Additional refinement would raise Mr. Birch's work from its present level to that of rich and excellent engraving. It would be worth the while of an etcher so bold and competent to do what we have suggested.

'A Series of Etchings of Salisbury,' by Mr. W. Brown (Riverside, Castle Street, Salisbury), comprise several meritorious views of old houses and churches in that city, but they are somewhat heavily etched and printed. Apart from these defects, which are not considerable, the prints are well worth having. We prefer the 'Six Views of Old Houses and the Cathedral,' as comprising some capital etchings of desirable subjects. 'Joiners' Hall' deserves much praise; it is full of colour, and shows a crisp and firm touch and the taste and tact we miss in Mr. Bird's etchings of Glasgow. Perhaps the best etching is that of 'St. Thomas's Church,' most excellent, but a little heavy.—We have received a nice, bright, and firmly touched, but rather slight etching of 'Lambeth Palace,' published by Mr. H. E. Pearce (Cleaver Street, Kennington). The artist draws with tact and spirit, and has a sense of the value of light, shade, and colour as translatable into black and white. It would be well if this sense, which one would think absolutely indispensable to an etcher, were commoner than it is. So far as this is from being the case, it may be safely said that not one etcher in ten, whether he be an artist or an amateur, possesses much of it, while some whose names are well known have not an inkling of the "values," as painters understand the term.—From Mr. A. J. Hook (Churt, Farnham) we have a proof of a capital reproduction of his 'On the Shore,' a young matron standing on the sands near a turbulent sea, and musing sorrowfully over a child's shoe which has just been cast at her feet. The picture is a capital example of wave-painting and true treatment of the atmosphere; the print does justice to the sea and sands, and reproduces fairly well the sentiment of the design, which is spontaneous and tender.

Mr. Marcus Stone's pretty and sincere picture, lately at the Academy, of a young gentleman seated under a tree and devoutly watching the busy fingers of a dainty damsel, his *vis-à-vis*, darning a glove, is very fortunately reproduced in a large photogravure sent to us by the Berlin Photographic Company. It is one of the most successful reproductions of the kind, and nearly as faithful as that lately noticed as published by the same company after Mr. Poynter's 'Diadumene.'

Inadvertently we described (p. 90, *ante*) the proof we had received from Messrs. Shepherd Brothers of Mr. Hole's etching after Crome as on Japanese paper; it is really on vellum. The "Japanese" proofs will not, it seems, be issued for some time.

M. ALEXANDRE CABANEL.

LAST week we briefly recorded the death of one of the most accomplished possessors of a laborious and studious talent, "rare, élégant, fini," which the schools of European art have ever produced. The Sir F. Leighton of France, he deserved to have all these terms applied to him in their best sense, and, as it was well said of some of his earlier years, he was an artist so Florentine that, barring a certain extra smoothness of surface, his works reproduce painting as it was practised on the Arno in its most refined and complete development. His 'Poète Florentin' (1861); his 'Giacomina,' a portrait (1872); his 'Mort de Francesca da Rimini' (1870, which is in the Luxembourg), perhaps in this country, where prints of it are common, the best known of all his works; and, above all, his 'Glorification de St. Louis' (1855), are proofs of this. His 'Thamar' (1875) showed his mind concentrated on the expression of intense but undemonstrative passion in a single figure, and was more vigorous than any of those we have mentioned. Théophile Gautier commended Cabanel's 'Mort de Moïse' (1853) as exhibiting Michael Angelic qualities we have not recognized, but the testimony of a writer so sympathetic is creditable to the painter. The "aristocratic distinction" M. P. Mantz admired in the numerous portraits by Cabanel to which, when reviewing a great number of them at the Salons of twenty years past, we have tried to do justice, does not imply anything like self-consciousness or *hauteur*. A smart, but not wholly unjust *not*, that his 'Portrait de l'Empereur' should have been inscribed 'Monsieur a Sonné?' wittily ignored the peculiar characteristics of the subject, but it indicated the opinion of Cabanel commonly held by his enemies. Yet his likenesses of men deserved higher praise than this sarcasm inferred. At any rate, no modern artist delineated ladies with more simple grace or elegant reserve than Cabanel. Such praise is surely glory enough for one man. In the ladies' faces there is none of that vague yearning look we recognize in most of the artist's legendary women, an element which, as with his Florentine models and their nineteenth century imitators amongst ourselves, may mean everything that is subtle and profound, or may, and generally does, mean nothing at all. With him an exceptionally great and precious store of that scholarship and love of art for art's sake which once distinguished the French School has departed, not in our time, we fear, to be replaced.

Besides the above-mentioned pictures his chief works are 'St. Jean' (1851), 'Velléda,' 'Martyr Chrétien,' 'Michel Ange,' 'Othello racontant ses Batailles,' 'Aglæa,' 'La Veuve du Maître de Chapelle,' 'Marie Madeleine,' 'Nymphé enlevée par un Faun,' 'La Naissance de Vénus' (now in the Luxembourg), 'Le Paradis Perdu' (now at Munich), 'Vénus,' 'La Sulamite,' 'Phèdre,' 'Cléopâtre,' and 'La Fille de Jephté.' His son, M. Pierre Cabanel, has obtained considerable distinction. Cabanel's obsequies were largely attended in the church of St. Philippe du Roule, most of the members of the Académie des Beaux-Arts being present. *Eloges* were pronounced by MM. Larroumet, Delaborde, P. Dubois, Guillaume, Bouguereau, and Humbert.

Fine-Art Gossip.

WE have to record the death, at the age of eighty-one, of Mr. Michael Mulready, son of the famous Academician, who, by the way, was born a hundred and three years ago; consequently two lives, overlapping for not less than

fifty-five years, have covered more than a century of time. Michael was the third of the four sons of William Mulready and Eliza, the elder of the sisters of John Varley, who were married in 1803. The other sister married a Mr. Andrews. The circle the future Academician thus entered comprehended several persons of considerable note as artists. John Varley (whose brothers William and Cornelius were well-known painters) married Esther; Clementi, the composer and pianist, married Emma; and Copley Van Dyck Fielding married Susanna—three of four Misses Gisborne. The eldest sister, Sarah, married Mr. Gray, vicar of a parish near Cirencester. The brother of these ladies was Mr. John Gisborne, the intimate friend of Shelley; to his wife the poet addressed the verses beginning:—

The spider spreads her webs, whether she be
In poet's tower, cellar, barn, or tree.

Mrs. Gisborne's son by her first husband was Mr. Henry Reveley, well known as an engineer, to whom several of Shelley's letters are addressed. When the elder Mr. Gisborne died, W. Godwin ardently wooed his widow to marry him, although Mary Wollstonecraft, his first wife, had then been dead not many weeks. After the death of Esther (born Gisborne), John Varley married the daughter of Wilson Lowry, F.R.S., and a distinguished engraver. The sons of William Mulready were John, Paul, Michael, and William. Their mother was an artist, and exhibited pictures between 1811 and 1819 at the Academy and British Institution; she died not long after her husband, from whom she was separated nearly fifty years. Of the sons, Michael was in closer relationship with his father (with whom he lived for some years) than any of his brothers; they were all artists and pupils of the Academician and the Royal Academy. Michael's first appearance was at Somerset House in 1830, a picture called 'A Game of Forfeits.' Until 1851 he frequently contributed to the Academy, usually portraits.

MESSRS. DOWDESWELL invite inspection of sketches and drawings of Sussex scenery, near Arundel, Amberley, Burpham, and Slindon, by Mr. W. E. Wimperis.

THE Alpine Club has invited visitors to inspect, between the 6th and 9th inst., at 8, St. Martin's Place, a collection of paintings and sketches made in the Alps by Mr. E. T. Compton. The Dudley Gallery Art Society has appointed to-day (Saturday) for the private view of its Spring Water-Colour Exhibition. The public will be admitted on Monday next.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Builder* has offered an excellent suggestion that as the beautiful, and as an architectural relic and subject of study ineffably precious, church of St. Julien le Pauvre, near Notre Dame, Paris, is to be cleared away to form a new street, the building should be "bought wholesale and rebuilt, stone for stone, either for the use of the English in Paris or elsewhere, or as a private chapel for some wealthy man." It is so fine an instance of that class of which Time has made sad havoc, that to let its stones be made into macadamizing material would be a sin and a shame. Its smallness and the simplicity of its decorations in the Transitional style of the eleventh century (with traces of "Byzantine"—Romanesque—foliage) fit the church for continuing in its original function as the chapel for a hospital or similar institution.

DERRYSHIRE possesses, though known to very few, what are probably the finest pair of old monastic doors in England. The great doors, with wicket doorway and spy-hole, of the Carthusian Priory of Beauvale, Notts, have long lain neglected at Melbourne Hall, being brought there when the old gatehouse was pulled down in the last century. The present tenant of the Hall, Mr. Fane, has placed them under cover. They are in fair condition, the oak bolted through with great clout nails, and are carved in panels, with intersecting tracery above. The

date seems to be about 1350-1380. Mr. Fane has lately brought to light among the Cole papers the original voluminous charter, with great seal attached, granting the lands of the dissolved priory of Beauvale.

THE Art and Exhibitions Sub-Committee of the Corporation of Liverpool propose to hold an exhibition of art decoration and art applied to manufactures at the Walker Art Gallery during the months of April, May, June, and July.

THE Académie des Beaux-Arts has elected as Corresponding Members of its body MM. Siedmiradski, of St. Petersburg, and Ferdinand Leenhof, of the Hague, in the places of M. Musini, painter, and M. Antokolsky, sculptor, both deceased.

THE Salon will be opened on May 1st as usual this year, and it will be held, as before, in the Palais de l'Industrie.

CARPEAUX's famous group of sculpture 'La Danse,' standing in front of the Nouvel Opéra, Paris, having suffered loss of one of the fingers and one of the toes, has lately been insulted by the bill-stickers, who, after their kind and according to the practice of those who defaced the Louvre with a multitude of *affiches*, stuck bills on its base.

M. LAMBROS writes from Athens:—

"The Ministry of Public Instruction has named a commission, on the pattern of the General Ephorate of Antiquities, to investigate the question of the embellishment and the further excavations of the Acropolis at Athens. This consists of the directors of the foreign archaeological institutes existing in Athens—M. Foucart, Mr. Gardner, Dr. Dörpfeld, and Dr. Waldstein. The commission has made the following recommendations:—(1) That all the walls of the *peribolus* of the Acropolis of late date should be destroyed down to the ancient level. Only those walls should be left which stand where no ancient walls or no ancient foundation exist. (2) That the side walls on either side of the door of Beulé and the Propylæa ought also to be levelled and be replaced by iron railings. (3) That the great Turkish vaulting and all later additions should also be destroyed, and that a part should be laid bare down to the rock. (4) That every trace of the Turkish minaret on the Parthenon, as well as the later *ante* of the western door of the Parthenon, is to be destroyed, but after an examination as to whether this can be done without any injury to the building. (5) That the western wing of the Propylæa should be restored, so far as ancient stones of it are available."

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The Popular Concerts. Otto Hegner's Recitals. The Symphony Concerts.

It is unnecessary to dwell upon the programme of last Saturday's Popular Concert, as the works presented were among the most familiar in Mr. Chappell's repertory. Beethoven's Quintet in c, Op. 29, and the same composer's Sonata in g, for piano and violin, Op. 30, No. 3, were the concerted items; and Mlle. Janotha rendered Schumann's 'Carnaval' in her usual manner, omitting, however, several numbers. Purcell's fine air from his 'Tempest' music, "Arise, ye subterranean winds," was introduced by Mr. Brereton, and made a considerable impression on the audience.

Monday's programme was of greater interest. It included a new sonata for pianoforte and violoncello by Signor Piatti, and Schumann's 'Fantasiestücke' for pianoforte, Op. 111, both for the first time. The sonata is the third of such compositions by the Italian artist which have been introduced at these concerts during the past few years, and is worthy of its companions, though not, on the whole, superior to them. The first movement in f, and the second,

a *romanza* in B flat, are written with the utmost elegance and purity of style; and the third is not less musicianly, though on a first hearing it did not prove so effective. In its general character the work is quiet and refined rather than energetic. The executants were the composer and Miss Fanny Davies, and it is needless to say that it was rendered to perfection and warmly received. Schumann's pieces were composed in 1851, one of the busiest years of his life, and almost the last in which the torch of his intellect burnt with undiminished brightness. The first number is only valuable as a study, but the second, a dreamy slow movement in A flat, and the third must take high rank among the composer's many inspired sketches for the pianoforte. Miss Fanny Davies had thoroughly grasped their meaning, and the young English pianist has never more fully satisfied artistic listeners. The instrumental programme was completed by Mozart's Quartet in c, No. 6 of the set dedicated to Haydn, and Haydn's Pianoforte Trio in the same key. Miss Liza Lehmann was announced to sing two songs by Mr. Hamish MacCunn, but illness prevented her from appearing, and Miss Margaret Hall took her place as the vocalist. She rendered Schubert's 'An die Leyer' and two French songs by Mr. Goring Thomas in a most pleasing manner.

The programme of little Otto Hegner's first pianoforte recital this season, on Monday afternoon, showed that since he last appeared he has pursued the study of his instrument to advantage, nearly every item being an addition to those he was constrained to rely upon last season. Bach's 'Partita' in B flat proved literally child's play in his hands. The execution was clear and precise, the most attentive ear failing to detect a false note. Beethoven's 'Waldstein' Sonata was a most hazardous experiment, and one that could not easily be justified. There are many sonatas by Beethoven in which the higher qualities of a pianist can be as easily proved, and which do not make such a heavy tax on mere physical resources. It is only fair to say, however, that if Hegner was scarcely equal to the first movement, he gave an astounding performance of the great *finale*, realizing the lofty ideas of the composer in a measure far superior to that frequently attained by adult performers. It was a remarkable achievement, and afforded ground for higher expectations of the youthful artist's future than anything he had previously accomplished. The rendering of some items by Chopin was merely that of a clever boy. The text was correctly delivered, but the sentiment was wanting. Hegner will do well to devote most of his attention at present to the older masters.

Mr. Henschel's programme on Tuesday did not contain any items of special interest. Mr. Hamish MacCunn's brightly written overture, 'Land o' the mountain and the flood,' was conducted by the composer, and warmly received. It was this piece that first brought the clever young Scotch musician into notice. Mr. Henschel's Ballad in F sharp minor, Op. 39, is an effective piece, and it was well rendered by Mr. Wessely. It cannot be said that the performance of Brahms's Symphony in D, No. 2, was wholly satisfactory, but it was a considerable improvement on that of the companion work

in F a few weeks ago. The charming *allegretto* was well played. Of the remaining items nothing need be said.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Musical Profession. By Henry Fisher, Mus.Doc. (Curwen & Sons.)—This is a curious and, on the whole, a somewhat silly volume. It occurred to the author that musicians and young persons about to enter the profession are as people groping in the dark from want of advice and information concerning the business details of their vocation. With the laudable object of aiding them he sent papers to musicians in every part of the country containing queries of all kinds, not only as to the methods by which music can be rendered profitable, but on such matters as the daily domestic life of a musician, his recreations and so forth. It is surprising that so many should have treated his inquiries in a serious spirit, but he has succeeded in obtaining a mass of matter which he has arranged in a fairly systematic manner. If any young musician is really in doubt on such points as the best methods of obtaining pupils, concert-giving, the proper relations between parson and organist, &c., he will find plenty of advice in Dr. Fisher's book, though he is likely to be bewildered by the extreme confidence with which the most contrary views and opinions are put forward.

The enduring popularity of wholesome and natural melody is proved by the frequent publication of collections of national airs. Two such have lately been issued. One is a new edition of Moore's *Irish Melodies*, with the original symphonies and accompaniments by Sir John Stevenson and Sir Henry Bishop (Ward, Lock & Co.). Though it is more than fifty years since the work first appeared, it does not seem likely that it will be superseded. The present edition forms a stately volume very clearly printed, and furnished with a biography and portrait of Moore. Of the other volume before us, *The Auld Scotch Songs*, arranged and harmonized by Sinclair Dunn (Glasgow, Morison Brothers), we regret to be unable to speak favourably. The selection of melodies, nearly one hundred in number, is excellent; but it is most unfortunate that the publishers have entrusted the arrangement of the accompaniments to an editor whose knowledge of harmony seems, to put it mildly, extremely superficial. It is long since we have examined a work containing so many irritating faults of musical grammar as this handsome volume.

Musical Gossip.

MR. VALENTINE SMITH will not succeed in reviving interest in English opera unless he offers the public something very much better than the slovenly performance of Wallace's threadbare 'Maritana' last Saturday. It is impossible not to witness such complete ignorance of what is required at the present day without pain, and, in a certain sense, indignation; for every misjudged attempt only renders the situation more desperate by inspiring musicians with a feeling of contempt towards the national lyric drama. Miss Susetta Fenn and Mr. Henry Pope were the most satisfactory members of the company, and earnestness characterized the efforts of some of the others. This is all that can be said in favour of the performance.

MR. F. H. COWEN will not return to England in time for the first Philharmonic Concert, as he was induced by a lucrative engagement to remain in Sydney for a week.

MISS DORA BRIGHT gave the first of three pianoforte recitals at the Princes' Hall on Wednesday afternoon. Her programme was chiefly noteworthy for the number of items by English composers, and the remaining recitals will be equally noticeable for the same cause.

On the present occasion the native works were Nos. 1 to 4 of a new and exceedingly well-written set of twelve studies by Mr. Walter Macfarren; a clever but somewhat dry series of variations on an original theme by Mr. Moir-Clark; and two agreeable little pieces from the recital-giver's own pen. Miss Bright was somewhat overweighted in Schumann's exacting Fantasia in c, Op. 17, and in Liszt's Transcription of Bach's Organ Prelude and Fugue in A minor; but, on the whole, she played well, and will do better with further study. Mr. Arthur Thompson sang some airs by Pergolesi and Sterndale Bennett with considerable taste.

FRAU MATERNA has just given two concerts in Brussels, at which she is said to have created an unexampled effect in some selections from Wagner's works, notably Brünnhilde's funeral oration from 'Götterdämmerung.'

THE completion of Weber's unfinished opera 'The Three Pintos' is due to Herr Mahler, director of the Opera at Buda-Pesth.

THE *Musikalisches Wochenblatt* confirms the assertion made some time since that the Vienna Männergesangverein will pay a visit to London in June next.

SOME of Herr Joachim's admirers have decided on celebrating next spring the fiftieth anniversary of his first appearance as an artist, and to present him with a bust of himself, executed in marble by Prof. Donndorf, of Stuttgart.

It is practically settled that Wagner's 'Nibelungen' cycle will be performed this year at St. Petersburg. The expenses have been fully covered by the subscriptions for seats.

THE New York German Opera Company, under the direction of Herr Anton Seidl, will appear for the first time in Boston in April, and will perform twice the whole of 'Der Ring des Nibelungen,' 'Die Meistersinger,' and 'Tristan und Isolde.'

A PROGRAMME has reached us of a musical festival held in Wellington, New Zealand, between November 27th and December 1st. The principal works performed were 'Elijah,' 'Israel in Egypt,' and 'The Golden Legend.' Beethoven's Symphony in c, No. 1, and his Pianoforte Concerto in g were included. There was an orchestra of 50, and the chorus numbered 150 voices. Mr. Robert Parker was the conductor.

CONCERTS, &c., FOR NEXT WEEK.

MON. Mr. Armbruster's Recital of 'Tristan und Isolde' (Third Act), 3, Portman Rooms.
— Popular Concert, 8.30, St. James's Hall.
TUES. London Symphony Concert, 8.30, St. James's Hall.
WED. London Ballad Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
THURS. Miss Ethel Meredith and Miss Jeanne Denys's Concert, 8, Steinway Hall.
SAT. — Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
— Crystal Palace Concert, 3.

DRAMA

Masks or Faces: a Study of the Psychology of Acting. By William Archer. (Longmans & Co.)

THE curious experiment begun by Mr. Archer some months ago in *Longman's Magazine* has been conducted with zeal, and carried in the present volume as far in the direction of a conclusion as is easily conceivable. To the principal actors of the day Mr. Archer has written asking them for their experiences with regard to Diderot's famous 'Paradoxe sur le Comédien.' From their replies he has compiled his 'Masks or Faces.' It is, of course, needless to say that Diderot's theory is practically that the comedian ought to approach a part intellectually and not emotionally, and that in proportion as he feels what he is saying or doing he falls off from perfection. Difficulty comes from the outset. With some later English writers,

Mr. Archer holds that paradoxes can be "contradictions in terms." Now the quiddity of a paradox is truth under the appearance of error or absurdity. Then, again, few actors have the frankness, or it may be self-knowledge, to speak absolute truth on a subject of this class. It is all very well for M. Coquelin, who plays eccentric, and frequently not too estimable characters, to state, "Je tiens que ce paradoxe est la vérité même." It is different with the impersonator of noble and heroic characters. To ask the representative of a sailor hero in an Adelphi melodrama whether, when he defies a host of enemies and rushes to the relief of oppressed virtue, he feels the character, is about as hopeful a process as asking the heroine if she is as young as she looks. No actors will feel Iago, they will all feel Cato. Sometimes, indeed, it seems as if a good many leading actors must be without a sense of humour, so unblushingly and touchingly do they present superhuman heroism, beauty, and worth.

Against the opinion of M. Coquelin Mr. Archer can place in *limine* that of Mr. Irving, who claims to be backed up by Talma, that "sensibility is the prime requisite of great acting." "The actor," continues Mr. Irving,

"who combines the electric force of a strong personality with a mastery of the resources of his art, must have a greater power over his audience than the passionless actor who gives a most artistic simulation of the emotions he never experiences. . . . If tears be produced at the actor's will and under his control, they are true art; and happy is the actor who numbers them among his gifts."

In these utterances are the poles. Is the truth midway between them? The answer to this will depend to a great extent upon temperament, but to some extent upon observation. Speaking with full information, we may say that we have known families of distinguished actors every member of which was in the full command of his faculties and his emotions whatever part he played. Names would add greatly to the force and vivacity of the illustration; but in the case of actors still living or recently dead names may not be used. While, accordingly, the oldest member of one family of this description with dry eyes drew from others tears in showers, the youngest and cleverest, who plays in less pathetic parts, will flash from the brightest of eyes immediate recognition upon any friend who passes the entrance into the stalls. A great artist, whose premature death was a serious loss to the stage, and who even now—such is stage life—is half forgotten, wept real tears upon the stage. Much stress was laid upon this. The actress in question could, however, fill her eyes with tears at volition, and this eminently convincing gift had no moral significance whatever. Other actresses, for whom it is claimed in the book before us that they are convulsed with tears—for the sake of affording no clue we use words other than those in the book—can when acting the most touching parts make signs behind their faces to acquaintances who are in a position to be seen. Kean, it is known, when playing tragic parts would talk to his companion about the way he was moving the house. Rachel when playing Phèdre came off the

stage to laugh and joke. An instance of kindred power in Mrs. Siddons is given by Mr. Archer, who also says that Garrick "in private society would often give the Dagger Soliloquy from 'Macbeth' at a moment's notice." Charles Kean again when playing tragedy would address his wife, "Ellen, the critic of the *Morning Chronicle* is not in his stall." Some names equally great may be mentioned as taking a contrary view. All we maintain is, however, that the general declaration of the majority of actors that they feel the parts they play is untrustworthy. The actor probably deceives himself. In the case of some confessions which appear in the book he undoubtedly does this. Mean time, Mr. Archer has collected a mass of curious information, and has written a very readable and suggestive book. He holds the scales pretty fairly, but leans somewhat towards the side opposed to Diderot. On the whole, however, the balance of the most intelligent testimony seems to us to favour the view of the encyclopædist.

THE WEEK.

ROYALTY.—'Les Demoiselles de Saint-Cyr,' Comédie en Quatre Actes. Par Alexandre Dumas.

PRINCESS'S.—Revival of 'Hamlet,' and (at an afternoon representation) of 'The Lady of Lyons.'

A SOMEWHAT miscellaneous entertainment has been given during the past week at the Royalty Theatre. The visit of half a dozen members of the Comédie Française has enabled M. Mayer to mount one or two comedies of a previous generation, and in so doing to vary pleasantly the rather monotonous programme of the last few weeks. 'Les Demoiselles de Saint-Cyr,' which was first given, is a bright and animated comedy of intrigue, the original production of which belongs to the 25th of July, 1843, when it was presented at the Théâtre Français by Mlle. Plessy (afterward Madame Arnould-Plessy), Brindeau, Firmin, and Regnier. It was, perhaps, a little too simple and lackadaisical for the French public. At any rate, its reception in Paris was but moderately favourable. It has, however, remained in the list of acting plays, and was revived at the Théâtre Français for a run so late as 1883. Its dialogue has all the wit and animal spirits of Dumas, and its intrigue, especially in the earlier acts, is well constructed. The central figure in the play is Philippe, Duc d'Anjou, the son of the Dauphin Louis and of Marie Anne de Bavière; and the action accompanies him to Spain, where he went in 1700 to reign under the title of Philippe V. Two youths, companions of the king-elect, who was then seventeen years of age, have found their way into Saint-Cyr, and have fluttered the carefully guarded dove-cote of Madame de Maintenon. Their proceedings have been betrayed to the marchioness, and no other course has been open to them than to marry in the Bastille the gentlewomen whose beauty has caused their escapade. Indignant at this treatment, they quit their wives and join Philippe V. in Spain. Hither they are followed by their respective wives in disguise, and are reconquered principally by the aid of jealousy. This pleasing story, which has more the character of a comic opera than a comedy, is delightfully played by the new arrivals. Mlle. Reichemberg

is deliciously piquante, fresh, and sparkling as Louise Maclair, the more vivacious of the heroines; and Madame Malvau plays her companion Charlotte de Mérian with quiet dignity which is eminently effective. M. Coquelin *cadet* is rather farcical in the rôle of Hercule Dubouloy, recently taken by his brother; M. Boucher, an admirable actor, who since the retirement of M. Delaunay has been promoted to that actor's parts, exhibited gallantry and distinction as Roger de Saint-Hérem; and M. Charpentier was a picturesque Duc d'Harcourt. Following the traditions of the Comédie Française, which assigned the part to M. Delaunay, M. Duflos played Le Duc d'Anjou, and was seen to advantage. It has always struck us, however—and we make the suggestion with due modesty—that this should be played almost as a Chérubin rôle, with, of course, the substitution of habits of princely command for the half-concealed tremors of that young rival of Almaviva. The entire representation had much grace, and was pleasant to see. Subsequent entertainments have consisted largely of monologues. 'Faute de s'entendre,' 'Le Baiser,' and 'Le Bonhomme Jadis'—a delightful little comedy of Bohemian life, with which at the Théâtre Français Henri Murger made his *début* as a dramatist—are among the pieces that have shown the grace and refinement of Mdlle. Reichemberg. To-night 'Les Folies Amoureuses' of Regnard is to be revived.

Mr. Wilson Barrett reappeared on Monday in 'Hamlet.' His performance of the character differs in no appreciable extent from that previously given. The same may be said of Miss Eastlake's Ophelia and Mr. George Barrett's excellent First Gravedigger. Some other characters were less happily cast.

The revival on Wednesday afternoon of 'The Lady of Lyons' inspired moderate interest. Claude Melnotte can scarcely be reckoned one of Mr. Barrett's most successful rôles. He charges it, however, with more earnestness than is customary, and makes love with much warmth. Miss Eastlake is once more the Pauline Deschappelles, and Mr. George Barrett makes a good Col. Damas.

Dramatic Gossip.

LADY MONCKTON will go to the Opéra Comique to take part in the performance of 'The Panel Picture,' by Mr. Outram Tristram, which is to be Mrs. Beringer's second venture.

THE afternoon performances at the Court Theatre of 'Little Goody Two Shoes' have ceased in consequence of the proceedings of the London School Board with regard to children employed upon the stage. The expediency of such action seems open to doubt, but the question can scarcely be regarded from the theatrical standpoint.

THE Strand reopens this evening under the management of Mr. Charles Wyndham and Mr. W. Duck with 'The Balloon,' a farcical comedy of Messrs. Manville Fenn and Darnley, which was recently produced at an afternoon representation.

A NEW drama by Messrs. Pettitt and Sims, written expressly for Mr. and Miss Pateman, will be produced shortly at a country theatre.

'APRIL SHOWERS,' a three-act comedy, by the authors of 'Flirtation,' has been played at Terry's

Theatre. It is written upon Robertsonian lines, and is said to have been intended for Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft during their tenure of the Prince of Wales's Theatre. Flimsiness of construction and a certain amount of artificiality are scarcely redeemed by the dialogue, which is amusing, without being dramatic. Misses Norreys and Maud Millet, Mrs. E. Phelps, and Messrs. Beauchamp, Waller, Chevalier, and Everard gave it a capable interpretation.

ON Saturday next 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' will take its place on the regular bills at the Haymarket in lieu of 'Captain Swift.'

'A DUEL IN THE SNOW AFTER A MASQUERADE BALL' is the title of a new ballet at the Empire Theatre, in which that excellent pantomimist M. Paul Martinetti appears with his troupe. The origin of this is, of course, found in the well-known picture.

DR. KARL ELZE, whose death we mentioned last week, was born in 1821 at Dessau, if we mistake not. He was highly esteemed in Germany as a Shakespearean critic, being one of the editors of the *Shakespeare Jahrbuch*, and occasionally sent us short notes on the text of Shakespeare. He had spent some part of his life in England, and thus knew English practically as well as from a literary point of view. A translation of his biography of Byron was published some years ago by Mr. Murray, and an English version of his life of Shakespeare, by Miss D. Schmitz, has just been issued by Messrs. G. Bell & Son. Dr. Elze had planned another visit to London in the spring.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. I.—R. L.—F. N.—G. H. W.—G. H.—H. L.—T. E.—N. M.—R. C. L.—D. C. F. M.—J. V.—T. D.—G. A.—A. H. F.—A. F. M.—R. S.—received.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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